



THE
NATURALIST'S POCKET
MAGAZINE ;

OR,
COMPLEAT CABINET

OF THE
CURIOSITIES AND BEAUTIES
OF
NATURE.

CONTAINING,
ELEGANT COLOURED PRINTS

OF
BIRDS, INSECTS,
FISHES, QUADRUPEDS,
FLOWERS, SHELLS,

AND OTHER NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.

WITH
DESCRIPTIONS.

VOL. VI.

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HARBESSED ANTELOPE.

Published June 26th 1800, by Harrison, Cluse & Co. N^o 78. Fleet Street.

HARNESSED ANTELOPE.

THE name of the Harnessed Antelope appears to have been given to this animal by Pennant. It is the Antelope Scripta, of Pallas, Schreber, and most other systematic naturalists; the Bonte Bock, or Spotted Goat, of Kolben; and the Guib, of Buffon. The Negroes call it Oualofes, or Jalofes. Linnæus does not appear to have been at all acquainted with it.

Buffon has given us a good figure and description of this animal. He says, that "the Guib, though not taken notice of by any naturalist or traveller, is very common in Senegal; from which M. Adanson brought a skin of it, and presented it to the Royal Cabinet. It resembles the Gazelles, and particularly the Nanguer, in the size and figure of the body, in the lightness of the limbs, in the form of the head and muzzle, in the eyes and ears, in the length of the tail, and in the want of a beard. But all the Gazelles, and especially the

the Nanguers, have their bellies of a fine white colour, while the breast and belly of the Guib are of a deep chesnut. It differs, likewise, from the Gazelles, by it's horns: which are smooth; without transverse rings; and have two longitudinal ribs, the one above and the other below, forming a spiral twist from the base to the point; they are, also, somewhat compressed. These characters make the Guib approach the Goat more than the Gazelle. It is, however, neither the one nor the other, but an intermediate species. This animal is remarkable for white bands on a chesnut ground-colour. These bands are disposed along and across the body, like a harness. It lives in society; and great flocks of these animals are found in the plains and woods of Podor. As M. Adanson is the first who remarked the Guib," concludes Buffon, "we shall subjoin his description, which he obligingly communicated to us."

From this very minute description, which Buffon gives verbatim in the original Latin, as it was presented to the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris, we learn that it greatly resembles

sembles the Nanguer, as Buffon has already told us; that it is four feet and a half long, from the nose to the rump; that it's height is two feet eight inches; and that the tail, which is covered with long coarse hairs, is ten inches in length.

As we have adopted Pennant's name, which appears to us the best, we shall extract the whole of his very short history and description of this animal.

“ This Antelope,” says Pennant, “ has straight horns, nine inches long, pointing backwards, with two spiral ribs. The ears are broad. The colour is a deep tawny. Beneath each eye, there is a white spot. The sides are most singularly marked with two transverse bands of white, crossed by two others from the back to the belly: the rump, with three white lines pointing downwards on each side. The thighs are spotted with white. The tail is ten inches long, covered with long rough hairs. It inhabits the plains and woods of Senegal, living in large herds. This is called, at the Cape, the Bonte Bock, or
Spotted

Spotted Goat: but it is not found farther to the East of that part of Africa, than Zwelendani."





LESSER BONANA BIRD.

Published June 26th 1866, by Harrison, Chase, & Co. 179, Fleet Street.

LESSER BONANA BIRD.

IN the Linnæan List of subjects figured and described by Edwards, this bird is denominated the *Oriolus Mexicanus*: Gmelin's Linnæus, however, makes it the *Oriolus Xanthornus*. It is said to be the *Xanthornus Mexicanus*, of Brisson; who considers it as the *Ayoquantotl* of Fernandez. Buffon gives it the singular appellation of "*Le Petit Cul Jaune de Cayenne*." We have adopted the familiar name of the Lesser Bonana Bird, from Edwards; as well as his excellent figure, and most accurate description.

This bird is about the size of a Lark: the object from which Edwards made his drawing, when taken out of spirits of wine, and moderately dried, weighed seven-eighths of an ounce. "The beak," says this celebrated ornithologist, "is pretty thick towards the head; bending a little downwards; sharp at the point; and of a dusky or blackish colour, except the base of the lower mandible, which is of a flesh-colour. The bill is encompassed
round

round with black feathers; very narrow on the head, reaching to the eyes on the sides of the head, and descending above an inch deep on the throat. The head, and part of the neck, are of a greenish yellow or olive colour. The whole body, both above and beneath, the thighs, and the upper and under coverts of the tail, are of a fine bright yellow. The lesser coverts of the wings, both within and without, are also yellow. The row of covert-feathers immediately above the quills are most of them white on their outer webs, forming a white spot in the middle of the wing. The quills are black; except three or four of those next the back, which have their outer webs edged with white. There is a little mixture of black among the lesser coverts of the wing, near the bend. The insides of the quills are of a dark ash-colour; but the edges of their webs, near their roots, are lighter. The tail has twelve black feathers of unequal lengths: the middle feathers being longest; but shortening, gradually, to the outer feathers on each side. The legs, feet, and claws, are made after the usual manner; having
three

three toes forwards, and one backwards, all of a black colour."

The bird, Edward tells us, is a native of Jamaica; and was brought from thence, with other natural curiosities, by Patrick Browne, M. D. who was pleased to favour him with the use of it, and it's nest, as well as several other birds, to make drawings from. He finds, he says, no description published that agrees exactly with this bird. The descriptions that comes nearest to it, are those of the *Icterus Minor Nidum Suspendens*, of Sloane's Natural History of Jamaica; and of the *Icterus Minor*, or Bastard Baltimore Bird, of Catesby's Carolina. But these are both described to be smaller, and a little varying in colour: yet he believes them to be the same, or very nearly allied to it; because the nest agrees nearly with what Sir Hans Sloane has described his to be, which is as follows—
“ They build their nests of the stalks or inward hair of that kind of viscum, *Herba Parasitica*, moss, or herb, called Old Man's Beard; which they carefully weave amongst one another, from the utmost extremities of the
twigs

twigs of high trees, sack-fashion, after the manner of hang-nests; and therein lay their eggs, to avoid the Snakes, &c. These stalks, or threads, are vulgarly, though falsely, thought to be horse-hair." The nest which was brought with the bird, by Dr. Browne, Edwards remarks, seems at first sight to be made of black horse-hair. He observes, that Catesby has given his *Icterus Minor* a Hen; which seems rather to belong to his Baltimore Bird in a preceding plate. "There is," adds Edwards, "another bird published and described by this name, and said to be a bird of Jamaica; though it is, according to Dr. Browne's report, a native of the Continent of New Spain, and not found in that Island. See Albin's History of Birds, where he calls it the Bonana Bird. Catesby calls the same bird the Yellow and Black Pye. Sloane has also called it the Yellow and Black Pye: see his History of Jamaica. This differs from our bird, in that it is a little bigger, in having the head wholly black, the bill larger in proportion, and a bar of black across the upper part of the back. Mr. Ray, and Sir Hans Sloane, make the Jupujuba, or Japu, of Marcgrave,

the

the same with the *Icterus Minor*, &c. but," concludes Edwards, "I have carefully compared the descriptions of both these birds, and find no similitude between them. Dr. Browne, in his *Natural History of Jamaica*, says that the Lesser Bonana Bird builds it's nest with the fibrous part of the *Renealmia*."

Buffon, who seems to have described the Lesser Bonana Bird somewhat too generally, says that it has a jargon nearly like that of the Lorient, and shrill like that of the Magpye. "They suspend their nests," says he, "which are of a purse-shape, from the extremity of small branches, like the *Troupiales*: but, as I am informed, they chuse such branches as are long and naked; and select those trees which are stunted, ill-formed, and lean over the course of a river. It is also said, that these nests are subdivided into compartments for the separate families; which has not been observed in the *Troupiales*. These birds are exceedingly crafty, and difficult to ensnare. They are nearly of the size of a Lark: their length eight inches; their alar extent twelve or thirteen; the tail three or four

four inches, and tapered, stretching more than half beyond the closed wings. The principal colours are yellow and black.”

He considers as varieties of this species—
 1. The *Xanthornus Icterocephalus Americanus*, or Yellow-Headed American Carouge or Bonana, of Brisson: being the *Oriolus Chrysocephalus*, of Linnæus and Gmelin; and the Golden-Headed Oriole, of Latham—2. The Bonana, or Carouge, of the Island of St. Thomas: being the *Oriolus Cayânensis*, of Linnæus and Gmelin; the *Xanthornus Cayanensis* of Brisson; the Yellow-Winged Pye, of Edwards; and the Yellow-Winged Oriole, of Latham—and, 3. The Jamac, of Marcgrave: being the *Oriolus Jamacaii*, of Gmelin; and the Brazilian Oriole, of Latham.





BEAR.

BEAR.

BUFFON observes, that “ there is no animal so generally known as the Bear, concerning which the writers of natural history have differed so much. Their uncertainties, and even contradictions, with regard to the nature and manners of this animal, seem to have proceeded from their not distinguishing properly the different species ; and, of course, they sometimes ascribe to one the properties of another. In the first place, the Land Bear must be distinguished from the Sea Bear ; the latter being commonly called the White Bear, or Bear of the Frozen Sea. These two animals are very different, both in the form of their bodies and in their natural dispositions. The Land Bears,” continues Buffon, “ must again be distinguished, into the Brown and the Black ; because, having neither the same inclinations, nor the same natural appetites, they cannot be regarded as varieties only of one and the same species. Besides, some Land Bears are White ; and, though resembling in colour the Sea Bear, they differ from it, in every other particular, as much as the other Bears. These White Land Bears are found

found in Great Tartary, in Muscovy, in Lithuania, and in other northern regions. They are not rendered white during winter, by the rigour of the climate, like the Ermines or the Hares; but are brought forth white, and remain so in all seasons. They ought, therefore, to be considered as a fourth species; if we did not also find Bears with their hair consisting of a mixture of brown and white, which indicates an intermediate race between the White Land Bear and the Brown or Black Bear: consequently, the White Land Bear is only a variety of one or other of these species. The Brown Bear is very common in the Alps, but the Black Bear is extremely rare. The latter, on the contrary, abounds in the forests of the northern regions of Europe and America. The Brown Bear is furious, and carnivorous; but the Black Bear is only wild, and uniformly refuses to eat flesh. Under the denomination of the Brown Bears," adds Buffon, "I comprehend those which are Brown, Yellow, Red, or Reddish; and, under Black, all the shades of that colour."

These distinctions of Buffon, however ingenious,

genious, are not, as we apprehend, by any means sufficient; nor is his history and description of the Bear entirely exempt from the confusion with which he justly charges many other naturalists.

In the Linnæan system, which was not sufficiently respected by the great French Naturalist, we find better discrimination; but still, perhaps, not quite sufficient. At present, scientific naturalists seem agreed to admit two different species of Land Bears; the *Ursus Arctos*, usually termed the Common Bear; and the *Ursus Americanus*, or American Bear. The defect seems to be, a want of duly distinguishing the respective varieties; and, particularly, those which are natives of America.

The animal represented in the figure annexed, is the Common Bear, or *Ursus Arctos*, of Linnæus. It is the *Ursus*, of Gesner, Aldrovandus, Ray, and Klein; the *Ours*, of Buffon; and the Brown Bear, of Pennant. In the Greek language, this animal is called *Αρκτος*; in the Latin, *Ursus*; in the Italian, *Orso*; in the Spanish, *Osso*; in the German, *Baer*.

Baer ; in the Swedish, Bioern ; in the Polish, Newer, Niedzwiedz ; in the French, Ours.

This animal is thus described by Pennant—
 “ It has a long head ; six cutting and two canine teeth in each jaw ; small eyes ; short ears, rounded at the top ; strong, thick, and clumsy, limbs ; a very short tail ; large feet, with five toes before, and five behind ; and, in walking, rests on the hind feet as far as the heel. The body is covered with very long and shaggy hair, various in it's colour. The largest Bears are of a rusty blackish brown : some, from the confines of Russia, are black, mixed with white hairs, called by the Germans Silver Baer ; and some, but rarely, are found in Tartary of a pure white.”

Buffon says, that “ Bears are found in all desart, rude, and woody countries ; but they never appear in populous nations, nor in open and cultivated regions. There are,” he observes, “ none in France, or in Britain ; except, perhaps, a few in the most unfrequented mountains of France. They were common in Greece ; and the Romans brought them from
 from

from Lybia, to be exhibited at their public spectacles. The Bear is not only a savage, but a solitary animal. He flies from all society, avoiding every place to which man can have access; and is only easy where Nature appears in her rudest and most ancient form. An old cavern among inaccessible rocks; or a grotto, formed by Time, in the trunk of a decayed tree, in the midst of a thick forest; serves him for a habitation. Thither he retires alone, passes part of the winter without provisions, and goes not out for several weeks. However, he is neither torpid, nor deprived of feeling, like the Dormouse and Marmot; but, as he is excessively fat about the end of autumn, which is the time he retires, this abundance of grease enables him to endure abstinence; and he departs not from his den till he is almost famished. It is alledged, that the Males leave not their retreats for forty days; but that the Females continue four months, because it is there that they bring forth their young. It is difficult to believe, that they should not only subsist, but nourish their young, without taking food for so long a period. I allow
that,

that, when pregnant, they are prodigiously fat; and that, being clothed with very thick hair, sleeping the greatest part of the time, and remaining without motion, they must lose little by perspiration: but if it be true, that the Males, pressed with hunger, go out in forty days; it is not natural to think, that the Females, after bringing forth and suckling their young, should feel less the want of food; unless we suppose them to devour some of their offspring, together with the membranes, &c. which is by no means probable, notwithstanding the example of the Cats, which sometimes eat their young. Besides, I am here talking of the brown species only; the Males of which devour the new-born cubs, when they discover them in their dens. The Females, on the contrary, seem to love their offspring with an astonishing ardour. After they bring forth, they are more ferocious and more dangerous than the Males. They fight, and expose themselves to every peril, in order to save their young: who are not unformed for some time after birth, as the ancients alleged, but grow nearly as quick as other animals. They are perfectly formed in the womb

womb of the mother: and, if the foetus, or young cub, seem at the first glance to be ill-formed, it is only because the old Bear herself, on the whole, is an animal gross and disproportioned; and we know that, in every species, the foetus, or new-born animal, is more disproportioned than the adult. The mother takes the greatest care of her young. She prepares for them a bed of moss and herbs, in the bottom of her cavern, and suckles them till they are able to go abroad with her. She brings forth in winter, and the cubs begin to follow her in the spring. The Male and Female live not together; but each has a separate and a distant retreat. When they cannot find a cavern for a den to make a lodging, they break and collect branches of trees, which they so cover with herbs and leaves as to render them impenetrable by water. The voice of the Bear is a deep murmuring; often accompanied with a grinding of the teeth, especially when irritated. He is very susceptible of anger; which is always furious, and often capricious. Though, when tamed, he appears mild and even obedient to his master, he should always be treated with diffidence and

and circumspection; and we should be particularly careful not to strike him on the nose or parts of generation. He may be brought to walk an end, to dance, and to perform various gesticulations. He seems even to listen to music, and to observe some kind of measures. But, to give him this species of education, he must be taken young, and constrained during life. An old Bear cannot be tamed, nor will he suffer restraint. He is naturally intrepid, or at least indifferent to danger. The wild Bear never turns out of his road, nor flies from the aspect of Man. It is alledged, however, that the sound of a whistle surprises and confounds him to such a degree, that he rises on his hind-feet. This is the time for shooting, and endeavouring to kill him; for, if he be only wounded, he attacks the huntsman with fury, embraces him with his fore-feet, and suffocates him."

The Bear, notwithstanding it's unwieldy form, is very expert in climbing the loftiest trees, which it always descends with it's hinder parts foremost; and it's amazing fatness, and abundance of fur, makes it light for swimming.

ming. It is sometimes carnivorous; and will destroy cattle, as well as eat carrion: but it's general food is said to be roots, fruits, berries, and other vegetables. It will beat peas out of the shells, on some hard place, eat them, and carry off the straw; ravage corn-fields; rob the farmer's granary; dig up potatoes; and is a great plunderer of the Bees, being particularly fond of honey.

The flesh of a Bear, in autumn, when these animals are excessively fat, by feeding on acorns and other mast, is most delicate food, and that of the cubs is still finer; but the paws of the old Bears are reckoned the most exquisite morsel. The fat is white, and very sweet. The oil is excellent for strains and old pains; and the grease is valued as a cosmetic to make the hair grow. The fur is a well-known article of commerce.

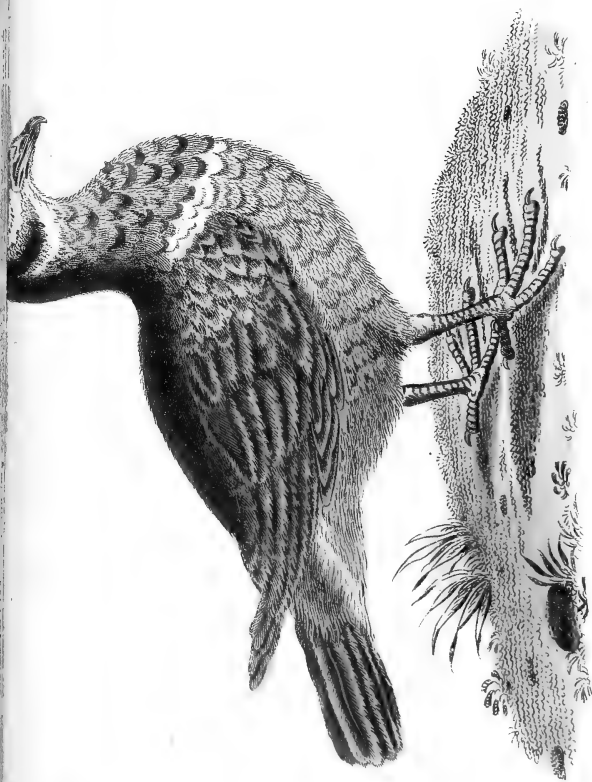
The Bear generally brings forth two cubs at a time; but sometimes three, and at others only one: and Pennant says, that the cubs even of the Brown Bear are of a jetty blackness, and often have round their necks a circle of white. M. De Musly, however, informed Buffon, that the colour of the young, at their birth,

birth, when they are very pretty, is yellow, but white round the neck ; and that, at first, they do not exceed eight inches in length. Their eyes are closed during the first month.

The Bear stands naturally upright, on it's hind legs ; and, in consequence of the nictitating membrane of it's eyes, is thought to have a cruel, surly, and unpleasant aspect. The skull is less than that of the Lion, but the brain is larger. The Female has four teats. The Bear enjoys the senses of seeing, hearing, and feeling, in a very high degree. " It's sense of smelling," Buffon says, " is perhaps more exquisite than that of any other animal ; for the internal surface of this organ is very much extended, having four rows of bony plates, separated from each other by three perpendicular planes, which increase prodigiously the surfaces proper for the reception of impressions from odoriferous bodies."

Dr. Goldsmith insists, that even the Black Bear is carnivorous. He observes, that Bears are first taught to dance, by setting them on hot plates of iron, and then playing to them with some musical instrument, while in this uneasy situation.





MOUNTAIN PARTRIDGE.

MOUNTAIN PARTRIDGE.

EDWARDS observes, that “ this bird is properly a Pigeon or Dove, though it has gained the name of the Mountain Partridge in Jamaica.” Linnæus, also, seems to have adopted this idea ; for, in his List of Edwards’s Birds, he denominates it *Columbus Montana*. It is, however, the *Tetrao Montanus*, of Gmelin ; the *Perdix Montana*, of Brisson ; and the Mountain Partridge, of Buffon, and of Edwards.

The figure annexed, which we have copied from Edwards, was drawn by that celebrated ornithologist, from the living bird in London. “ The bill,” says he, “ is shaped like those in other Doves : it is blackish, from the point, half it’s length ; the remainder, toward the head, with the knob over the nostrils, is of a fine red. The eyes have their irides of a fine bright yellow : and are encompassed with a skin, bare of feathers, of a fine scarlet colour, which skin reaches from the eyes, on each side, to the corners of the bill. The feathers
joining

joining to the upper part of the bill, on the forehead, are of a clay-colour; the remainder of the head, the back part and sides of the neck, are of a fine dark reddish-purple colour, shining with a changeable gloss; and the fore-part of the neck is of a reddish clay-colour. From the angles of the mouth, there passes a white line under each eye: it is, also, white on the throat, or under side of the head. At the bottom of the neck, just at the joint of the wing, on each side, is a small plat of white transversely placed. The back, wings, and tail, are of a reddish copper-colour; the covert-feathers of the wings are edged with a lighter copper-colour; and the breast, belly, thighs, and covert-feathers under the tail, are of a lightish yellow, or clay-colour. The legs and feet are made like those of other Doves; having four toes on each foot, placed after the usual manner. Both legs and feet are of a red or rose-colour. The claws are brownish.

“ This bird,” adds Edwards, “ was the property of my good friend Mr. John Warner, Merchant, at Rotherhithe, near London, who

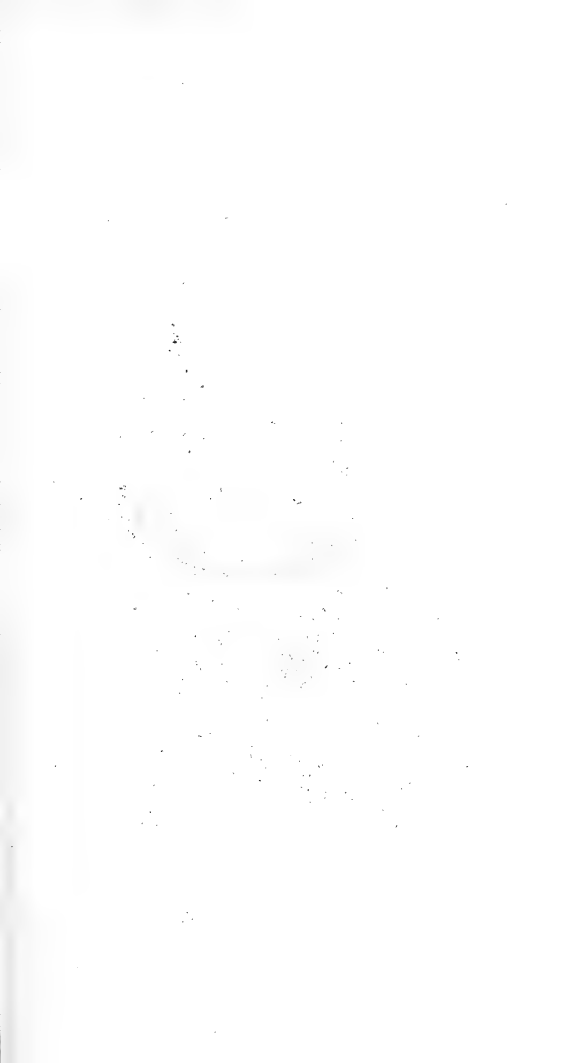
who permitted me to make a drawing from it. Though it has already been well described by my worthy patron, Sir Hans Sloane, Bart. in his History of Jamaica, as it has never appeared in it's native colours, I have ventured here to publish it: and, to compleat my description, shall borrow the following account from Sir Hans Sloane—" The stomach was
" pretty large; and filled with a sort of Bay
" Berries, called Sweet-Wood Berries. It
" was not very muscular; neither was there
" any thing extraordinary in the entrails of
" this bird. They are found in the woody
" mountains near the Angels, where they feed
" on berries. They are accounted very good
" food. They build their nests in low-
" boughed trees; and make them with sticks
" laid across one another, on which is placed
" hair and cotton. They are made so little,
" that the young, when feathered, fall out of
" them on the ground, and are there fed by
" them."

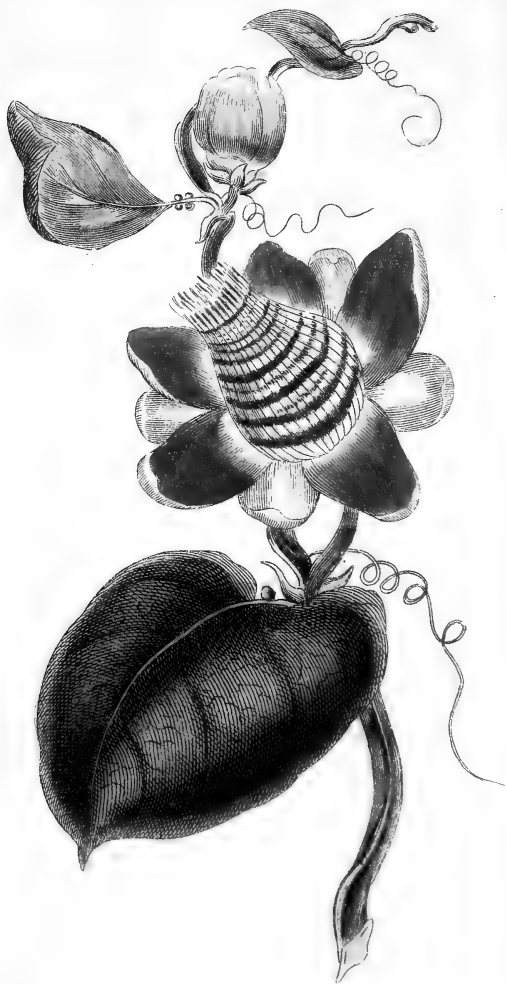
To this, which is the whole of Edwards's description, we shall add that of Buffon. " I make," says he, " this Partridge a distinct species; since it resembles neither the

Grey

Grey nor the Red sorts. It would be difficult to decide, to which of these kinds we ought to refer it: for if, on the one hand, it be certain that they sometimes breed with the Grey Partridges; on the other, their ordinary residence is on mountains. The red colour of their bill and legs also shews a close relation to the Grey Partridge; and I am strongly inclined to suspect, that they sometimes even consort with these. I am therefore persuaded," concludes Buffon, "that it constitutes the intermediate species between these extremes. It is nearly the size of the Grey Partridge, and has twenty quills in the tail."

We are rather surprised, that Buffon has not at all noticed the affinity which this bird evidently bears to the Dove or Pigeon.





PASSION FLOWER OF JAMAICA.

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PASSION-FLOWER OF JAMAICA.

AMONG all the various species of the Passion-Flower, or *Passiflora* of Linnæus, that which we have represented in the annexed print seems to be the grandest and most superb.

This genus of plants is ranged in the fourth section of Linnæus's twentieth class, which includes those flowers whose male and female parts are joined together, and their flowers have five stamina. Tournefort, who calls it the *Granadilla*, places it in the second section of his sixth class, which includes the herbs with a Rose flower, whose pointal turns to a fruit with one capsule. *Granadilla* is the Spanish name of the Passion-Flower; in French, it is *Fleur de la Passion*.

The genus of the Passion-Flower consists of at least twenty known species. They are, in general, natives of warm climates, and most of them are beautiful. Some of them are hardy enough to thrive with us even in the open air, without being at all injured in mild winters; though very severe ones commonly kill the branches to the ground, and sometimes destroy the roots.

The

The plant which we have figured is the *Passiflora Elata* of Linnæus; and, though denominated the Passion-Flower of Jamaica, from it's pre-eminent beauty and grandeur, it is by no means the only species of Passion-Flower which grows naturally in that island. It rises to a good height, in the same manner as the Common Passion-Flower, by claspers; and is remarkable for keeping in a continual succession of flowers almost the whole year.

Though all the Passion-Flowers are propagated by seeds, they do not often perfect their seed in our climate, and may be propagated by laying down the branches. If this be done in April, they will put out roots by the middle of August; when they may be separated from the old plants, and placed in pots to gain strength, or into the border of the stove where they are to remain. Some of the sorts may also be propagated by cuttings; which should be planted in pots about the end of March, plunged into a moderate hot-bed, kept screened from the sun, and be gently refreshed with water as often as the earth may require it. They put out roots in about ten weeks, and must then be treated like other tender plants from the same countries.





RADIATED SHREW.

Published by the Government of the Cape of Good Hope.

RADIATED SHREW.

IT is, perhaps, not easy to decide with certainty, whether this animal be in fact a Shrew, or a Mole, or of an intermediate species.

Monsieur De la Faille, in his celebrated Memoir respecting Moles, appears to have first figured and described this singular animal. Indeed, his figure and description have been adopted by Buffon, and other naturalists; who do not seem to have any other knowledge of the animal than what that gentleman originally gave them. It is, perhaps, extremely doubtful, whether any other specimen was ever met with, exactly like that which we also have copied from M. De la Faille. This circumstance, added to the very singular appearance of the tail, induces us to apprehend that the seeming contraction of the interstices of it's joints, may have been the result of some accident to the particular animal, rather than any constant character of a species. Could this be fairly ascertained, so as to establish the fact, we should incline to consider
the

the animal in question as merely a variety of the Radiated Mole; to which, unquestionably, it is very nearly allied.

In this uncertainty, we shall describe, as we have figured, from such materials as M. De la Faille has afforded; including the opinions of subsequent writers, by whom it has been noticed.

It is considered as the *Sorex Radiatus* of the Linnæan system; characterised, as the Blackish Shrew with a lengthened snout, radiated at the tip with tentacula.

Buffon, after De la Faille, calls it *La Taupe de Canade*, or the Canada Mole. Dr. Shaw, who has very well figured and described it, in his description titles it the Canada Shrew; but names it, in his plate, the Radiated Shrew. He observes, that “this animal may with great propriety be termed *Sorex Radiatus*—or, the Radiated Shrew—since the snout, which is long and slender, has a dilated cartilaginous extremity, furnished with a circular series of sharp-pointed processes, or soft tendrils, disposed in the manner of the rays in
a spur.

a spur. The whole animal," he adds, "is of a long form; and it's habit immediately pronounces it to belong to the genus *Sorex*, and not to that of *Talpa*. It is a native of Canada, and resembles the Mole, only in some particular parts; while, in others, it approaches to the Mouse tribe, having the same shape and agility."

The body of this animal is rather long, and it is covered with coarsish black hair. The tail, which is three inches long, is knotted, and almost naked. The feet, which are much less than those of the Mole, are also nearly naked: they have five toes each; and are covered on the upper parts, with small brown and white scales. The eyes are small, and concealed under the skin. The snout, on each side, is edged with upright vibrissæ: and the radiated tentacula, at the extremity of the nose, which are of a bright rose-colour, are moveable at the pleasure of the animal, so as either to be brought together into a tubular form, or expanded in the shape of a star.

According to M. De la Faille, this animal,
which

which he considers as a Mole, is more above ground, and less addicted to burrowing, than the common species. He also acknowledges, that it is not very common in Canada. It occasionally burrows somewhat in the manner of the Mole, but far less forcibly and expeditiously; and it is said to pass a very considerable portion of it's life beneath the surface of the snow.

It is remarkable, that the Radiated Mole, though placed in the genus of Moles by Pennant, and some other naturalists, from it's having the manners of that tribe; is ranked, in the *Systema Naturæ*, with the Shrews, on account of the number of it's teeth. Gmelin calls it *Sorex Cristatus*, or the Crested Shrew.

Pennant describes, as another species of Radiated Mole, though to us it seems merely a variety of the *Sorex Cristatus*, what he denominates the Long-Tailed Mole. This, we strongly suspect, is a variety of the same animal as our Radiated Shrew; but without that peculiarity of the tail, which so singularly distinguishes the figure of M. De la Faille.

The

The description given by Pennant of his Long-Tailed Mole is as follows—

“ It has a radiated nose. The fore-feet are pretty broad; the hind-feet very scaly, with a few short hairs on them. The claws of the fore-feet, are like those of the Common Mole; on the hind-feet, they are very long and slender. The hair on the body and nose is soft, long, and of a rusty brown colour: the tail is covered with very short hair. The length of the tail is two inches; that of the nose and body four inches and six tenths. It inhabits North America.

The intelligent reader will at once perceive that, in these animals, there are some obvious differences: but the resemblances are very great; and the variations few, and by no means essential. They are all inhabitants of the same country; have each of them the grand characteristic radiated tendrils at the extremity of the nose; and all seem equally to participate as well in the nature of the Shrew as of the Mole, so as to leave it difficult of decision to which side they most incline.

cline. In this view, however, we must not lose sight of the peculiar appearance of the vertebræ of the tail; since, most certainly, if it could be established, that this was not the effect of some accident peculiar to the single animal which fell under the inspection of Monsieur De la Faille, it would no longer be disputed that his Canada Moie, or Radiated Shrew, is a distinct species, whatever might be it's claim of affinity to the Radiated Moles.

We have thrown out these few observations for the consideration of those who are lovers of Nature and of Truth; without wishing to intrude our own notions, farther than they appear reasonable and consistent. In the mean time, we do not hesitate to assert, that we shall ourselves adhere to the opinion which we have above expressed, till it can be satisfactorily proved that the knotted appearance of the tail is a constant character in this animal.





YELLOW-BREASTED TOUCAN.

Published July 20. 1866. by Harrison, Clow & Co. 178. Fleet Street.

YELLOW-BREASTED TOUCAN.

EDWARDS, whose figure we have adopted with the name of this bird, has thus described it—

“ The bill is very great in proportion, compressed sideways, having a sharp ridge along its upper part, and toothed on it's edges. The upper mandible is green; with a long triangular spot of orange-colour on each side, and the ridge on the upper part yellow: the lower mandible is blue, with a shade of green in the middle. The point is red. It has about five transverse faint dusky bars, which cross the joinings of the two mandibles: the nostrils are invisible, in the black line that surrounds the bill. The iris of the eye is of a fair green colour. Round the eye is a broad space of naked skin of a violet colour; the skin beneath the feathers is also of a violet colour. The throat and breast are of a bright yellow; below which is a bar of scarlet feathers, which parts the yellow on the breast from the black on the belly. The covert-feathers of the tail are
white

white above, and those beneath of a fine red. The crown of the head, upper part of the neck, the back, wings, belly, and tail, are wholly black; though, on the upper side of the wings and tail, it has a changeable gloss of blueish purple. The toes stand two forward and two backward. The legs and feet are all of a blue or violet colour."

Edwards drew this figure from the living bird, while in good feather and spirits. He observes, that the Toucan is very rarely brought to England alive: "one coloured drawing from this genus living," remarks Edwards, "is worth ten from dead birds; because the bills, which have very fine colours in the living, totally change to very obscure colours when dead, as I have discovered from my own observation. This bird," he adds, "is not precisely described by any author: the nearest resemblance I can find, is Brisson's Toucan à Gorge Jaune de Cayenne."

This was the opinion of Edwards; but, it seems, the *Tucana Brasiliensis*, *Guttur Luteo*, or Yellow-Throated Toucan of Brasil,
and

and not that of Cayenne, is the bird described by Edwards. Buffon, indeed, under the title of the Yellow-Throated Toucan, describes not only both these birds, but three other kinds also, and insists that they are all but a single species.

“ It is from this species of Toucan,” says he, “ that those brilliant feathers used as ornaments are obtained: all the yellow part is cut off from the skin, and sold at a high price. The Males, only, furnish these fine yellow feathers; for the throat of the Females is white: and this distinction has misled the nomenclators; who have regarded the Male and Female as of different species; and finding some variation of colours in both, have even gone so far as to make each include two separate species. But we reduce these four pretended species to one; and we may also join a fifth, mentioned by Laët, in his History of the New World, which differs only in the white colour of it's breast.”

The Toucans thus united by Buffon, in one single description, are the *Ramphastos Dicolorus*,

YELLOW-BREASTED TOUCAN.

lorus, and the Ramphastos Tucanus, of Linnæus and Gmelin—the Ramphastos Piscivorus, of Linnæus and Gmelin; and the Ramphastos Erythrorhynchus, of Gmelin—the Tucana Cayanensis Gutturæ Albo, and the Tucana Brasiliensis Gutturæ Albo, of Brisson—the Picus Americanus, and the Altera Xochitenacatl, of Fernandez—the Passer Longirostrus, Xochitenacatl Dictus, of Nieremberg—and the Toucan or Brazilian Pye, and the Red-Breasted Toucan, of Edwards.

“ In general,” adds Buffon, “ the Females are very nearly as large as the Males; their colours are not so vivid; and the red bar below the throat is very narrow: in other respects, they are exactly similar. This species is the most common, and perhaps the most numerous, of the Toucans. They abound in Cayenne; particularly, in the swampy forests, and on the Mangrove Trees. Though, like the rest of the genus, they have only a feathery tongue, they articulate a sound like “ Pinien-Coin !” which the Creoles of Cayenne have employed as it’s designation; but which we
have

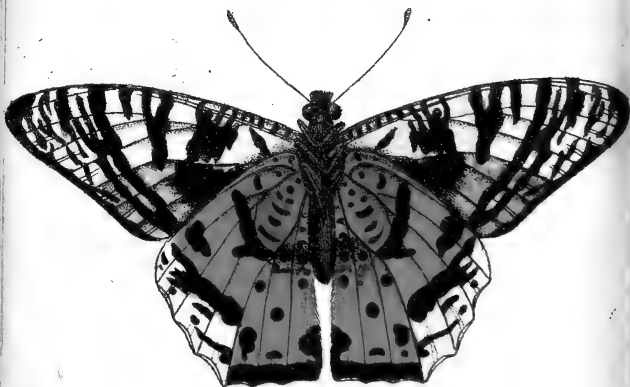
YELLOW-BREASTED TOUCAN.

have not adopted, because it is also common to the Toco."

The general length of these birds, from the end of the bill to the extremity of the tail, is nineteen inches: of which the tail is upwards of six inches, and the bill four and a half; so that the length of the head and body is little more than eight inches.







GOLDEN EMPEROR.

Published July 10, 1860, by Harrison, Clave & Co. 179, Fleet Street.

GOLDEN EMPEROR.

THIS grand and beautiful Butterfly, was originally figured by Mr. Drury, of it's natural size, among his excellent delineations and descriptions of Exotic Insects.

The Butterfly, was brought from China; of which country it is a native, but supposed to be not, even there, very common.

The insect from which Mr. Drury's fine drawing was taken, belonged to the collection of Mr. May; and it was from that gentleman that it obtained the name of the Golden Emperor, which has been universally adopted by subsequent Aurelians.

There is no English Butterfly, and there are but few foreign ones, even in the most luxuriant climes, which may be at all compared with the Golden Emperor; such, indeed, is it's exquisite beauty, that it is confessed, by all who have ever seen it, to be the most superlatively handsome Butterfly they had ever beheld.

The

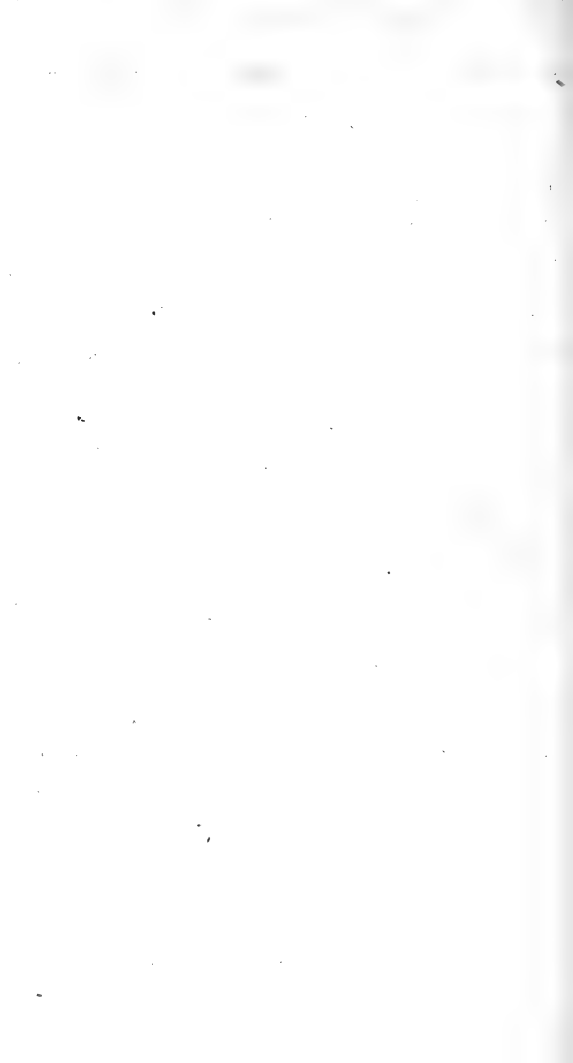
The Upper Side of the upper wings is of a lovely deep or bottle green, all over marbled or striped with irregular streaks of a deep black. The under wings are black on the part towards the body; next to which, towards the upper wings, there is a fine light blue-green, clouded with black. The other part of these wings, which lies between the tail and the bottom edge, is a curious deep crimson, or blood-red, which shines with a rich golden lustre, and is spotted with black.

The Under Side of the upper wings is a light sea-green, clouded like the Upper Side. The under wings, next the body, are of a most brilliant golden green, marked with small spots of black. This green softens into a fine purple spot; the purple, into crimson; the crimson, to a blood-red; and, from thence, it becomes of an orange hue, extending down to the lower edge, which has a border of black for the width of three membranes of the wing. The other part of the wing, which is at the outer edge, is a blue-green clouded with black.

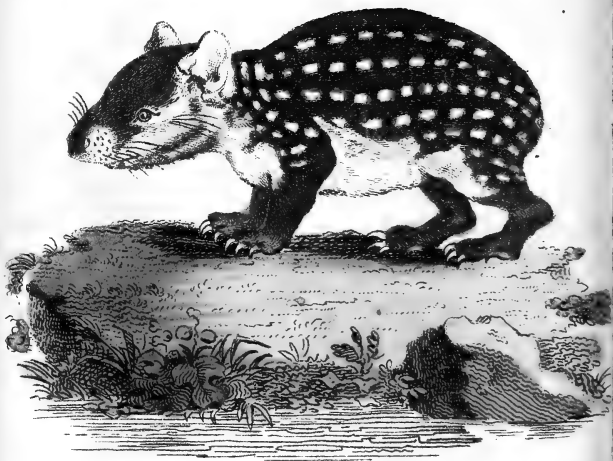
All the colours of the Under Side of this Butterfly are changeable, according to the position in which the insect is placed ; appearing, in fact, as if painted with transparent colours on a golden ground.

It measures four inches and three quarters over the upper wings ; or, from tip to tip.

On account of the prodigious difference in colour, between the Upper and the Under Side of this most beautiful Butterfly, though the markings are very exactly the same, we have thought it necessary to represent both sides in the print annexed, which affords a good idea of this inimitably fine insect.







PACA.

Published July 17th 1820 by Harrison, Clow & Co. 378. West Street.

PACA.

WE reject the more familiar name of the Spotted Cavy, generally given to this animal by English naturalists ; because, as it appears to us, the Agouti, which is also a species of the Cavy, and marked with similar spots on a bright ferruginous ground instead of a brown or dusky one, has an equal claim to that appellation, being both alike Spotted Cavies.

The Paca is the *Mus Paca*, of Linnæus ; the *Cavia Paca*, of Gmelin, and of Klein ; the *Cuniculus Paca*, of Brisson ; the *Mus Brasiliensis Major*, or Large Brazilian Mouse, of Ray ; the Hog-Rabbit, of Dampier ; the Spotted Cavy, of Pennant ; and the Paca, of Marcgrave, Piso, and Buffon. Its native names, in Brasil, Cayenne, &c. appear to be the Pac, or Pak ; the Pag, or Pague ; and the Paca : so, at least, this animal is called by different travellers.

“ The Paca, or Spotted Cavy,” says Buffon, “ is an animal peculiar to the New World.

World. It digs holes in the earth, like the Rabbit; to which it has often been compared, though there is very little resemblance between them. It is even larger than the Hare. It's body is thicker, and plumper; and the head is round, and the muzzle short. It is very fat; and rather resembles a young Pig, in figure, grunting, gait, and manner of eating: for it uses not, like the Rabbit, it's fore-feet, in carrying food to it's mouth; and, like the Hog, it digs the earth in quest of nourishment. It frequents the banks of rivers, and is only found in the warm and moist places of South America. It's flesh is fat, and makes excellent food. Even it's skin is eat, like that of a Pig. For these reasons, this animal is in perpetual request. It is difficult for the hunters to take it alive. When surprised in it's hole, which they lay open both before and behind, it defends itself, and even bites in a cruel manner. The skin, though covered with coarse short hair, makes a very good fur, because it is regularly spotted on the sides. These animals produce often, and in great numbers: many of them are destroyed by men, and beasts of prey, and yet the species is always numerous.'

This

This description, Buffon tells us, was taken from a young subject, which had not acquired half it's growth. In his Supplement, therefore, he mentions, that he had one sent him larger than the other when it arrived, and which continued to increase in size during the whole nine months which he kept it in his house. He adds a copious account of it's mode of living and acting, from remarks by the *Sieur Trécourt*, of which we shall extract all the most interesting particulars.

This animal, it appears, when provided with a wooden cage or box, with sufficient food, remains perfectly tranquil during the day. It seems even attached to it's retreat all day; for, after feeding, it spontaneously retires into it: but, on the approach of night, by perpetual restlessness and agitation, and by tearing the bars of it's prison with it's teeth, it discovers a violent desire to get out. Nothing of this kind happens during the day, unless when it has occasion to make some natural evacuation; for it cannot endure the smallest dirtiness in it's apartment, and always voids it's excrement in the most distant corner it can find. When the

straw

straw begins to smell, it pushes it out with it's muzzle, as if to demand fresh litter, and even goes in search of rags or paper to supply it's place. It often forms a new nest for itself in obscure corners, and even under the kitchen grate, which nothing but force can make it quit.

The animal kept by Buffon, was a Female; and she had such a propensity to cleanliness, that she took an aversion to a large Male Rabbit, which had been shut up with her when she was in season, the moment he voided his excrement in their common apartment. "She had before received him so cordially," says Buffon, "that something was expected. She had even made considerable advances; for she licked his nose, ears, and body, and allowed him to take almost the whole of her food: but, as soon as the Rabbit had infected the cage with his ordure, she retired into the bottom of an old press, where she made a bed of paper and rags; and returned not to her old lodging, till she saw it made neat, and freed from the unclean guest which had been presented to her."

The

The Paca is easily accustomed to a domestic life; and, unless when industriously irritated, is gentle and tractable. It licks the hand of the person who caresses it; knows the different voices of those who take care of it; and, if gently stroked on the back, lies down on it's belly, by a small cry expresses it's acknowledgments, and seems to solicit a continuance of the favour. It has an aversion to Children, and always runs after them. It also attacks Dogs, till they become acquainted, and sometimes bites strangers. It's passion is expressed by chattering with it's teeth, and is constantly preceded by a sort of grunting. It sits on it's paws, and cleans itself with them, a good deal in the manner of a Cat; but often uses both paws at a time, and applies the hind-paws where the fore-paws cannot reach. The animal, however, is neither delicate, nor smooth, nor nimble; but, rather, heavy and lurid, with nearly the gait of a small Hog. It runs seldom, and very awkwardly; and has no vivacious movements, unless when it leaps on the furniture, or on such things as it is desirous to seize and carry off. It resembles the Hog still farther in the whiteness and thickness of it's skin; which

which cannot be drawn off, because it adheres to the flesh.

Though Buffon's tame Paca had not acquired her full growth, she was, when she extended herself, nearly two feet long, from the point of the muzzle to the extremity of the body; while that which he had first described was less than eight inches. The difference, he observes, as there was no other between the two animals, must be ascribed entirely to that of their ages.

“ The height before,” says Buffon, “ in the individual we are now describing, is seven inches; and, behind, about nine inches and a half: so that, in walking, the hind part of the body appeared always higher than the head. The posterior part of the body is also the thickest; being nineteen inches and a half in circumference, while that of the anterior part is only fourteen inches. The body is covered with short, coarse, thinly scattered hair, of a dusky colour, and deeper on the back. But the belly, the breast, the throat, and the interior parts of the legs, are of a dirty white. This

This animal is rendered exceedingly remarkable by five longitudinal rows of white spots, which run along the body, and approach each other at their extremities."

The head is described as long, and very convex; the eyes, as large, prominent, and of a brownish colour; the ears, as roundish, and covered with a fine and almost imperceptible as well as impalpable down; the nose, as broad, and nearly black at the extremity, with wide nostrils, and divided like those of the Hare; and the under jaw, as an inch shorter, and much narrower, than the upper. The animal has considerable strength and address in it's snout: and, on each side of the upper jaw, there is a longitudinal fold, which may, on a side view, be taken for the mouth; especially as the mouth only appears when it is open, has a small aperture of but six or seven lines, and is not more than two or three lines distant from this fold. Each jaw has two very long incisive teeth, which are as yellow as saffron; and with these, Buffon tells us, he has seen this animal, in the course of a single night, cut a hole in one of the planks of it's lodging,

lodging, large enough to let out it's head. It's tongue is narrow, thick, and somewhat rough. The whiskers consist of black and white hairs. The resistance of the animal prevented Buffon from counting the number of it's grinders. The feet have each five toes; four of which are armed with claws half an inch long, of a flesh-colour. This colour, however, Buffon remarks, is not to be considered as a constant character; "for," says he, "in several animals, and particularly the Hare, we often find the claws black, while they are whitish or flesh-coloured in other individuals." The fifth, or interior claw, is short, and only visible when the animal raises it's foot. There are two teats between the hind-feet. The tail, which is scarcely visible, forms a small button of not more than two or three lines long.

The Paca has a strong appetite; and, in it's domestic state, eats almost every thing: bread soaked in wine, in water, and even in vinegar; fruits, roots, and pot-herbs, of all kinds; coleworts, grass, moss, the barks of trees, and even wood half-charred. Flesh it seems least to relish. In drinking, it laps like the Dog.

Buffon

Buffon thinks that the Paca might be naturalized in France. He remarks that, "as the animal is easily tamed, and it's flesh excellent, it would prove a useful acquisition. It seems not to be afraid of cold; and, besides, as it can dig holes in the earth, it could easily defend itself against the rigour of winter. A single individual of this species would furnish as much good meat as seven or eight Rabbits."

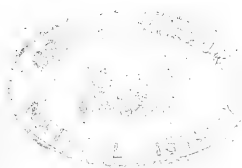
M. De la Borde informs us, that the Paca generally lives on the banks of rivers; and that it forms it's hole in such a manner as to have three different ways of entering or going out. When pursued, it takes to the water, and dives frequently; but, on being attacked by Dogs, makes a vigorous defence. The flesh is much esteemed at Cayenne; and, in whatever way dressed, is excellent. He adds, that the animal lives alone in it's hole, and leaves it not till night, when it goes in search of food. It comes not abroad during the day, unless when constrained by the necessities of nature; for nothing is ever found in it's kennel. When it returns, it always shuts up the entrance with leaves and twigs. The Female usually produces

duces but one at a time ; which quits not the mother till it be full-grown, or begins to form sexual attachments.

“ At Cayenne,” concludes M. De la Borde, “ there are two or three different species, which are said not to intermix. Some of them weigh from fourteen to twenty pounds, and others from twenty-five to thirty.”

Pennant remarks, that “ there is a variety quite white, found on the banks of the River St. Francis.” This, surely, affords an additional reason why he should not have called it the Spotted Cavy !”

The ground-colour of the animal appears to vary, from a dark brown, to nearly black ; and that of the spots, from white to grey, frequently with a yellowish tinge. The throat, breast, belly, and insides of the limbs, are usually a dirty white.





BLUE AND GREEN DAW.

Published July 7th 1850, by Harrison, Cluett & Co. Portland, Me.

BLUE AND GREEN DAW.

THERE seems good reason to suppose, that this beautiful bird, though figured and described by Edwards under the above appellation, is in fact a Roller, and not strictly a Daw.

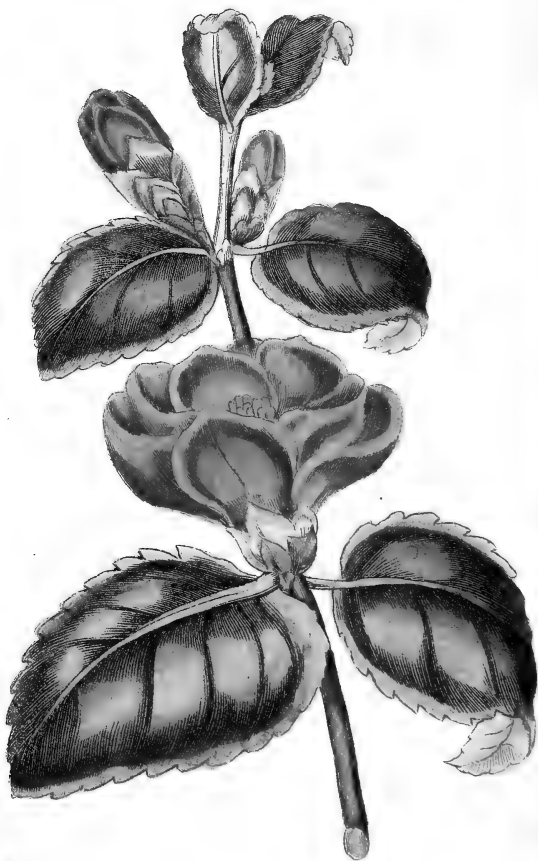
In the Linnæan List of Edwards's Works, it is denominated the *Coracias Bicator*; and, on comparing the description of this bird by Edwards, with the history of the Rollers in general, as described by modern naturalists, there can be but little doubt of it's belonging to that genus. We, however, having copied Edwards's figure, and retained his name, shall also subjoin his description: leaving our readers to decide for themselves, on the propriety of what we have remarked.

Edwards says—"The bill is black; a little bowed downward, having an angle on each side of the upper mandible near the point. The whole head, neck, and under side to the tail; the lower part of the back; and the tail; are all of a very fine blue colour, shaded a little with purple, having a bright shining surface

face like polished metal: the lesser coverts of the wings, both above and beneath, are of the same shining blue colour. The middle of the back; the quills, and the two rows of coverts above them; are of a most splendid green, reflecting glosses like burnished gold. The covert-feathers have black tips, which form two rows across each wing. The insides of the quills, and under side of the tail, are of a dusky black. The tips of the tail-feathers, and the middle of the belly between the legs, have the blue feathers tinged with green. The legs, feet, and claws, are pretty strong in proportion, and covered with black scales. The outer toes adhere a little at their bottoms to the middle toes.

“ The above described,” concludes Edwards, “ I take to be, undoubtedly, an unknown species; as I can find no figure, or description, in Natural History, agreeing with it.”

This bird, as Edwards was informed, came from the island of Ceylon, in the East Indies.



JAPAN ROSE.

Published July 17, 1850, by Harrison, Cluse & Co. 128, Fleet Street.

JAPAN ROSE.

THE genus *Camellia*, of which this fine tree is a species, was so named by Linnæus, in honour of George Joseph Kamel, a Jesuit, whose name is usually written *Camellus*. The *Syllabus Stirpium in Insula Luzone Philipinarum* of Kamel, forms the Appendix to the third volume of Ray's History.

This genus is of the *Monadelphia Polyandria* class, and in the natural order of *Columniferæ*.

There are three known species of the *Camellia*: 1. The *Camellia Japonica*, or Japan Rose, of Linnæus, represented in the figure annexed; the *Thea Chinensis*, of Petiver; and the *Tsubaki Montanus*, of Kæmpfer—2. The *Camellia Sasanqua*, of Linnæus, and of Thunberg; and the *Sasanqua*, of Kæmpfer—and, 3. The *Camellia Drupifera*, of Loreiro's Cochin-China.

Of the first species, there is a variety which Kæmpfer distinguishes by the appellation of the *Tsubaki Hortensis*; and it is figured by Edwards, under the name of *Rosa Chinensis*, or the Chinese Rose.

The

The Japan Rose, or first species, is thus described by Professor Martyn, in his new edition of Miller's Gardener's Dictionary—"The bark, ash-coloured: branches, round and smooth. Leaves, alternate, ovate, shining on both sides, thick and stiff, paler green beneath, on short petioles. Peduncles, terminating, very short, and commonly solitary, with the branches lengthened out beyond them. The calyx has about nine broad, ovate, thick, smooth leaves. Petals, larger and longer, thickish, uniting at bottom into a tube full of nectareous juice. Stamens, about fifty. Stigma, unequally five-cleft.

"It is a vast and lofty tree; in high esteem with the Japanese, for the elegance of its large flowers, which exhibit a great variety of colours, but have no scent, and for its ever-green leaves. It is very common every where in their groves and gardens, flowering from October to April. It varies with single and double flowers; white, red, and purple.

"It is a native, also, of China; and occurs very frequently in Chinese paintings. It
was

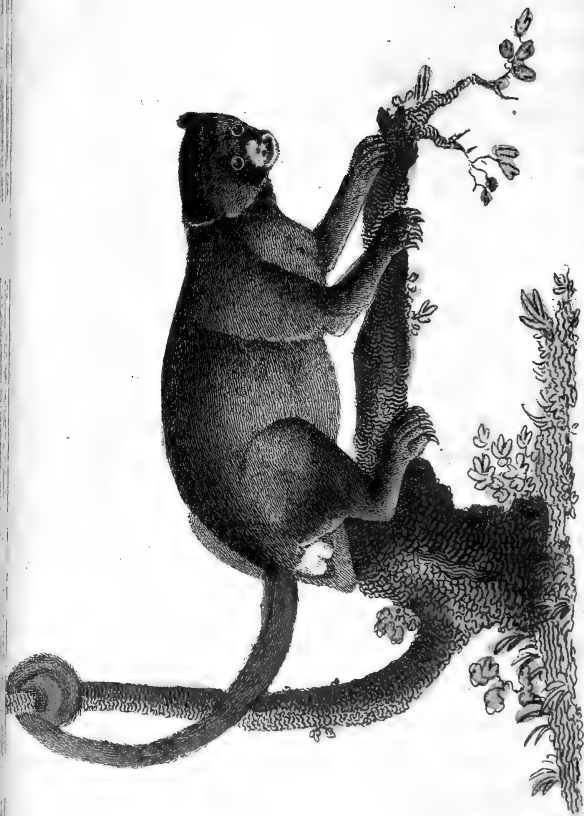
was cultivated before 1742, by Robert James Lord Petre."

The second species, or *Camellia Sasanqua*, which is a tree of a middling size, differs from the first, in having thinner, narrower leaves, obscurely serrated; flowers many times smaller, with oblong emarginate petals; and a much smaller and more slender stem. The flowers are borne singly at the ends of the branches: the calyx is usually five-leaved, but sometimes six; and the petals are five, but sometimes six or seven, of a snowy whiteness, and deciduous. The leaves, when dried in the shade, have a sweet smell, and the women wash their hair in a decoction of them. They are also mixed with Tea, to give it an agreeable odour. Dr. Martyn remarks, that this species so resembles the Tea Plant, that it is distinguished by little else besides the coalescing stamens; and, that this is scarcely a sufficient mark of distinction, since the stamens coalesce only at the base, and sometimes seem even to be distinct. It is a native of Japan, and flowers in November.

The third species, or *Camellia Drupifera*, is a middle-sized tree, with spreading branches. The leaves are acuminate, smooth, hard, small, alternate, and petioled; the flowers, which are white, are terminating, and on two or three peduncles together, one on each; the petals, which are eight, are oblong and emarginate; the style is quadrifid, equal to the stamens; and the drupe is roundish, with a grooved four-celled nut, and roundish kernels. The fruit is equal in size to the Walnut, and not much unlike it; it is not, however, esculent. It is cultivated, as well as found wild, in Cochin-China. The oil extracted from the nuts, is used by the natives to anoint their hair, as well as for various medical purposes. It is said to have a pleasant odour, and not readily to become rancid.

The first species, or our Japan Rose, has alone been yet brought into Europe. This also has hitherto been scarce, and kept up at a high price. It has generally been treated as a stove-plant; though, sometimes, it has been placed in the green-house. It is propagated by layers; and may be also propagated by cuttings.





YELLOW WEASEL.

YELLOW WEASEL.

LITTLE appears to be with certainty known respecting this species of animal. The living individual, represented in our annexed print, was exhibited about twenty years ago in London: and it's keeper, who said that it came from the mountains of Jamaica, called it the Potto; a name which, Pennant observes, is "given, by some writers, to a species of Sloth found in Guinea."

We apprehend, however, that the Potto to which Pennant would refer, is a Maucauco, and not a Sloth; being, in truth, as it appears to us, the Lemur Potto, of the Linnæan System, and figured and described by Bosman in the second volume of his account of Guinea.

Indeed, Mr. Pennant himself, in his Synopsis of Quadrupeds, named the animal which we are now to describe, the Yellow Maucauco; though, subsequently, in his History of Quadrupeds, yielding perhaps to the classification of Schreber, who has figured and described it under the appellation of *Viverra Caudivolvola*, he denominates it the Yellow Weasel.

We

We would not, were we engaged in a work strictly systematical, hastily venture to disturb, on light grounds, what experienced naturalists have agreed to receive into it's supposed due station according to the Linnæan arrangement; and yet, even in this unassuming collection, though we consent to describe the animal under the name of a Weasel, we cannot conscientiously do so, without entering somewhat like a protest against it's propriety.

In short, from it's size, description, and other circumstances in it's history, we incline to consider it rather as of the Maucauco, than of the Weasel race: nor does it to us seem very improbable, that the identical animal in question might be, in reality, the Potto of Guinea.

Nothing is more certain, than that the exhibitors of uncommon animals frequently give erroneous accounts of the places from whence they have been obtained: sometimes, from having themselves been misinformed; and, sometimes, it is to be feared, from a desire to work on credulous curiosity, by pretending that they are natives of some country where they
may

may seem unlikely to be often produced. Many instances might be adduced, of African animals, from the Guinea Coast, having been long supposed natives of the West Indies: which is easily accounted for, by those who consider the great intercourse kept up between the two countries.

Without, however, pretending to decide on this occasion, we shall give the description of the animal figured; leaving what we have suggested to be confirmed or invalidated by future experience.

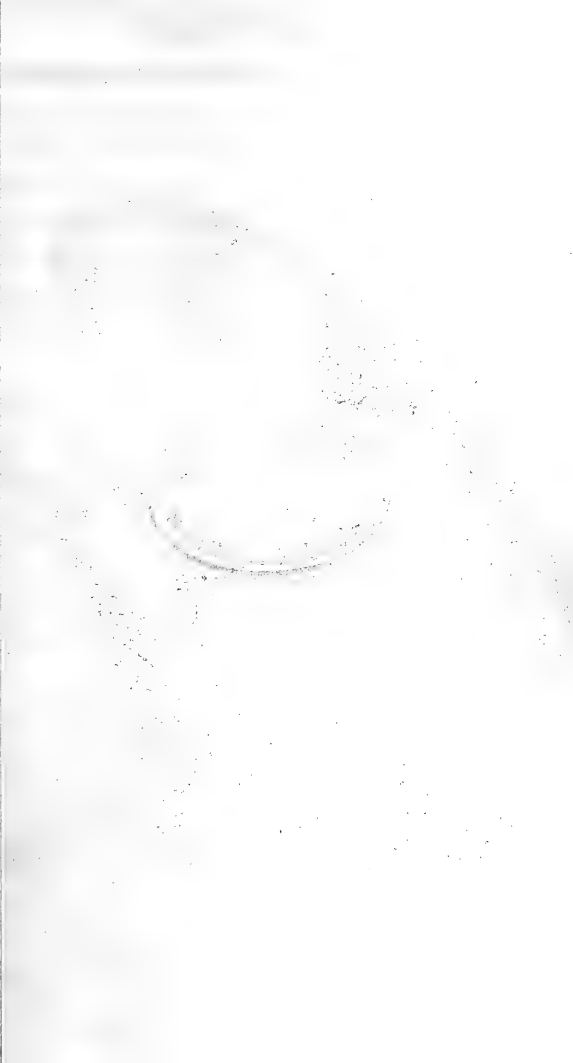
Pennant describes the Yellow Weasel as having a short dusky nose; small eyes; short, broad, and flapping ears, placed at a great distance from each other; a flat and broad head; cheeks swelling out; a very long tongue; short, and very thick, legs and thighs; five toes to each foot, separated, and all standing forward; and large flesh-coloured claws, a little hooked. The hair is short, soft, glossy, and closely set: it's colour, on the head, back, and sides, is a mixture of yellow and black; the cheeks, insides of the legs, and the belly, are yellow. Half-way down the middle of the belly,

belly, there is a broad dusky list, ending at the tail; and there is another from the head, along the middle of the back, to the tail. The tail, which is of a bright tawny, mixed with black, has the same prehensile faculty as that of some of the Monkeys. The length of the animal, from the nose to the tail, is nineteen inches; that of the tail, is seventeen.

It was, according to Pennant, very good-natured and sportive: would catch hold of any thing with it's tail, and suspend itself; and lay with it's head under it's legs and belly.

These manners, we may be permitted to remark, but little correspond with those of the Weasel race; yet sufficiently accord with that of the Maucauco.

In short, it is not very improbable, that this animal might be conveyed from the Guinea Coast to the West Indies, in one of the slave-ships; and be afterwards taken to England by a West-India trader, as a native of Jamaica, from whence it last came. Certain it is, that not the smallest appearance of such a quadruped can be traced in any account of the natural productions of that well-described island.





HONEY-GUIDE CUCKOW.

Published July 25, 1860, by Harrison, Cluse, & Co. 178, Fleet Street.

HONEY-GUIDE CUCKOW.

AS we are enabled to give a new and beautiful figure of this very curious bird, we have taken a liberty which we do not often allow ourselves with respect to it's name. The expressive appellation of *Cuculus Indicator*, by which Dr. Gmelin has designated this bird in his edition of the *Systema Naturæ* of Linnæus, is not easy to be advantageously translated; and is has, in our opinion, been very unsuccessfully attempted by the translator of Buffon's *Ornithology*, who calls it the Pointer Cuckow. Sparman, the original scientific discoverer of this bird, denominates it the Honey-Guide; or, *Cuculus Indicator*: this double appellation, so expressive of it's appearance and peculiar faculty, we have endeavoured to combine, by calling it the Honey-Guide Cuckow. The ingenious Mr. Latham, however, in his estimable works, names it simply the Honey Cuckow.

The account given by Dr. Sparman of this bird, in a Letter to Dr. John Reinhold Forster, F. R. S. which was communicated to the
Royal

Royal Society, and inserted in their Philosophical Transactions, Vol. LXVII. for the year 1777, forms the basis of every subsequent history and description of the Honey-Guide Cuckow, with which we have hitherto become acquainted. We shall, therefore, transcribe the whole of it's curious history, from this most respectable source,

“ This curious species of Cuckow,” says Dr. Sparman, “ is found at a considerable distance from the Cape of Good Hope, in the interior parts of Africa, being entirely unknown at that settlement. The first place where I heard of it, was in a wood called the Groot Vaader's Bosch—the Grandfather's Wood—situated in a desert near the river which the Hottentots call T'kaut'kai. The Dutch settlers thereabouts have given this bird the name of Honig-Wyzer, or Honey-Guide, from it's quality of discovering wild-honey to travellers. It's colour has nothing striking or beautiful, as will appear from the description and drawing annexed; and it's size is considerably smaller than that of our Cuckow in Europe: but, in return, the instinct which
prompts

prompts it to seek it's food in a singular manner, is truly admirable. Not only the Dutch and Hottentots, but likewise a species of quadruped which the Dutch name a Ratel—probably, a new species of Badger—are frequently conducted to wild Bee-hives by this bird; which, as it were, pilots them to the very spot. The honey being it's favourite food, it's own interest prompts it to be instrumental in robbing the hive, as some scraps are commonly left for it's support. The morning and evening are it's times of feeding; and it is then heard calling, in a shrill tone, "Cherr! Cherr!" which the honey-hunters carefully attend to as the summons to the chace. From time to time, they answer with a soft whistle; which the bird hearing, always continues it's note. As soon as they are in sight of each other, the bird gradually flutters towards the place where the hive is situated; continually repeating it's former call of "Cherr! Cherr!" Nay, if it should happen to have gained a considerable way before the men—who may easily be hindered in the pursuit by bushes, rivers, and the like—it returns to them again, and redoubles it's note, as if to reproach them with their inactivity.

activity. At last, the bird is observed to hover, for a few moments, over a certain spot ; and then, silently retiring to a neighbouring bush, or other resting-place, the hunters are sure of finding the Bees nest in that identical spot : whether it be in a tree ; or in the crevice of a rock ; or, as is most commonly the case, in the earth. While the hunters are busy in taking the honey, the bird is seen looking on attentively to what is going forward, and waiting for it's share of the spoil. The Bee-hunters never fail to leave a small portion for their conductor ; but, commonly, take care not to leave so much as would satisfy it's hunger. The bird's appetite being only whetted by this parsimony, it is obliged to commit a second treason, by discovering another Bees nest, in hopes of a better salary. It is farther observed, that the nearer the bird approaches the hidden hive, the more frequently it repeats it's call, and seems more impatient.

“ I have had frequent opportunities of seeing this bird ; and have been witness of the destruction of several republicks of Bees by means of it's treachery. I had, however, but two opportunities

opportunities of shooting it; which I did, to the great indignation of my Hottentots. From those specimens, both of which are supposed to be Females, I have made the subsequent description. The inhabitants in general accuse the same bird of sometimes conducting it's followers where wild beasts and venomous serpents have their places of abode: this, however, I never had an opportunity of ascertaining myself; but one ought to believe such cases to be accidental, where dangerous animals happen to be in the neighbourhood of a Bees nest.

“ While I staid in the interior parts of Africa, a nest was shewn to me, which some peasants assured me was the nest of a Honey-Guide. It was woven of slender filaments or fibres of bark, in the form of a bottle. The neck, and opening, hung downwards: and a string, in an arched shape, was suspended across the opening, fastened by the two ends; perhaps, for the bird to perch upon.”

To this account of the bird's manners, Dr. Sparman adds a very minute scientific description,

description, in Latin: which Buffon presents in a more familiar dress; and, therefore, more suitable to the nature of our work, as well as his own.

The great French naturalist, after lightly sketching an outline of the chief facts in the above history, remarks, that "this is not the idle tale of a common traveller: it is," says he, "the observation of an enlightened man, who assisted at the destruction of several republicks of Bees betrayed by this little spy, and who communicates an account of what he saw to the Royal Society of London. I shall add," continues Buffon, "the description of the Female, which he made from the only two subjects that he could procure; and which he shot, to the great scandal of the Hottentots: the existence of a useful creature is every where precious!

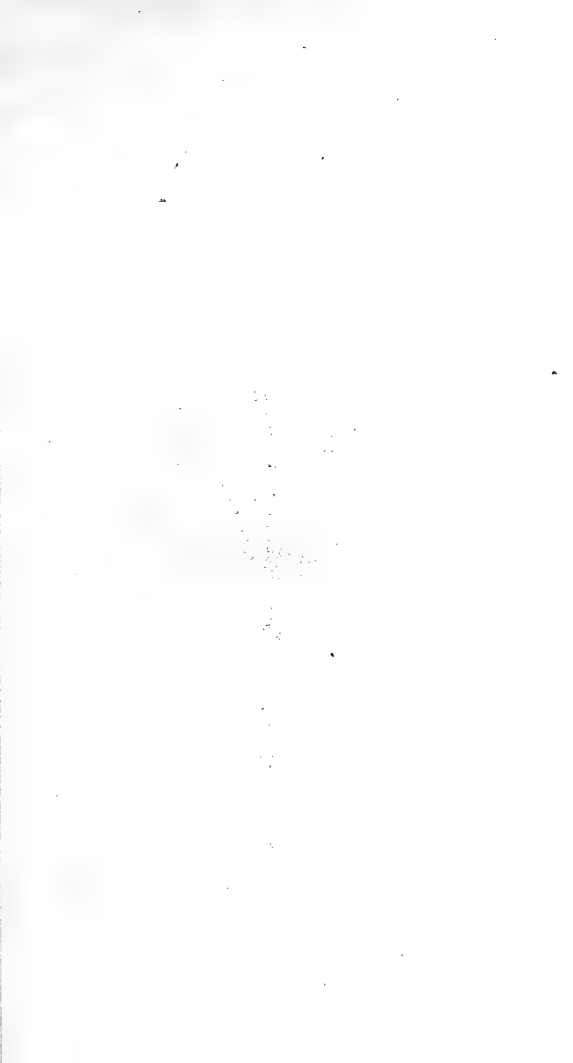
"The upper side of the head is grey. The throat, the fore-part of the neck, and the breast, are whitish; with a greenish tinge, which grows more dilute as it spreads, and is scarcely perceptible on the breast. The belly

is white: the thighs are the same, marked with an oblong black spot. The back and rump are rusty grey. The superior coverts of the wings are brown-grey: those next the body being marked with a yellow spot; which, on account of it's situation, is often concealed under the scapular feathers. The quills of the wings are brown. The two middle quills of the tail are longer and narrower than the rest; and of a brown, varying on rust-colour: the two following pairs are blackish, their inside dirty white; those which succeed, are white, terminated with brown, and marked with a white spot near the base, except the last pair, where this spot almost vanishes. The iris is rusty grey; the eye-lids are black. The bill is brown at it's base, and yellow at the end. The legs are black. The bird's total length is six inches and a half. The bill is about six lines, and there are some bristles at the base of the lower mandible. The nostrils are oblong; with a projecting margin, placed near the base of the upper mandible, and separated only by it's ridge. The tarsus is short; the nails are slender. The tail is tapered, and composed of
twelve

twelve quills ; it exceeds the wings by three-fourths of it's length."

It is remarked, in a note to Buffon's account of this bird, that, " according to some travellers, the cry of this bird is " Wieki! Wieki!" and this word Wieki signifies Honey, in the Hottentot language." It is added, that " it sometimes happens, that the hunter, in following the call of this Cuckow, is devoured by wild beasts ; which has given occasion to say, that the bird concerts with them to conduct their prey."

As, however, there does not appear to be the same inducement to betray mankind as the Bees, we might suspect the accuracy of this last account, without adverting to what has been so properly suggested by Dr. Sparman in opposition to the somewhat similar notion which he also ascribes to the natives.





STRIPED ALSTROEMERIA.

Published July 25, 1878, by Harrison, Olney, & Co., N. Y., 821 West Street.

STRIPED ALSTROEMERIA.

THE beautiful plant represented in the figure annexed, is a species of that genus to which Linnæus has given the appellation of *Alstroemeria*, in compliment to Baron Claas, or Claudius Alstroemer, of Sweden; who had, during his travels, sent many plants to Linnæus. This genus is of the *Hexandria Monogynia* class: and ranks in the natural order of *Lilia*, or rather of *Liliaceæ*; being, evidently, a *Liliaceous* plant, but not truly a *Lily*.

There are six known species of the *Alstroemeria*, which are thus named in the Linnæan system—1. The *Alstroemeria Pelegrina*, or *Spotted Alstroemeria*: described as having the stem erect; the corollas bell-shaped and straight; and the leaves linear-lanceolate, and sessile—2. The *Alstroemeria Pulchella*: having the stem erect; the corollas reflex-spreading, and acute; the leaves sessile; and the pedicles shorter than the involucre—3. The *Alstroemeria Ligta*, or *Striped Alstroemeria*, which is the species we have figured: having an erect stem; leaves spatulate oblong; pedicles of the umbel longer than the involucre; and the corolla two-lipped—4. The *Alstroemeria Salsilla*:

Salsilla : having a twining stem ; leaves petiolate, lanceolate, and acuminate ; the umbel branching ; and the peduncles, which are longer than the involucre, bracted and loose—5. The *Alstroemeria Multiflora* : having a twining stem ; leaves petiolate, lanceolate, and acuminate ; the umbel simple ; peduncles shorter than the bractes ; and petals alternate and truncate—6. The *Alstroemeria Ovata* : having a twining stem ; leaves lanceolate, lanuginose on the upper surface and lucid on the leaves ; and corollas tubular.

All these plants are found in South America. The leaves are resupinate, and the petals alternately larger and smaller. The trivial names of the first, third, and fourth species, are taken from their Peruvian appellations.

The flowers of the first species, or *Alstroemeria Pelegrina*, are whitish, most beautifully stained, and veined, with purple and red. It was first introduced into England, by Messrs. Lee and Kennedy, about the year 1753.

The second species, or *Alstroemeria Pulchella*, in appearance and structure, very much resembles the first.

The

The third species, or our Striped Alstroemeria, vulgarly called the Striped-flowered Alstroemeria, has the barren stems clothed with awl-shaped leaves pressed to it, terminated with spatulate-oblong leaves placed in a kind of rose. The floriferous stem is also clothed with awl-shaped leaves, clasping close to it, and terminated with a shorter involucre. The peduncles are few, very simple, naked, and longer than the involucre. The three upper petals of the corolla are longer; white; dotted at the base, and spotted at the tip, with red: the three lower ones shorter, especially the lowest; almost awl-shaped; and red. The filaments are longer than the lower petals, and rugged: the anthers are twin, and yellow; the pistil is red. This species is remarkable for the largeness of its flowers, and for their fragrancy. The odour is scarcely inferior to that of Mignonette. It flowers in February and March, and was first introduced in England, by John Brown, Esq. about the year 1776.

The fourth species, or Alstroemeria Salsilla, has nervose leaves; naked petioles; the involucre many-leaved, awl-shaped, and reflex; peduncles few, elongated, sustaining one or two flowers:

flowers: a bracte at the branching of the peduncles; and petals, from erect spreading, rather blunt, the outer one being red and the inner greenish.

The fifth species, or *Alstroemeria Multiflora*, though it has the habit and structure of the *Salsilla*, is generally considered as very distinct from the rest.

The sixth species, or *Alstroemeria Ovata*, differs from the *Salsilla*, in it's woolly leaves and tubulose flowers.

The *Alstroemerias* are stove plants, and may be propagated by parting the roots in autumn. The first species is experienced to be much more hardy than our *Striped Alstroemeria*, and may be treated as a green-house plant: it will, however, not only flower better, but sooner and more effectually ripen it's seeds, if it be placed under the glass of a hot-bed frame, where the air is freely admitted. This species is more usually raised from seeds sown in the spring, in a pot of light earth, on a gentle hot-bed of dung or tan.





PROBOSCIS MONKEY.

Published July 25. 1850 by Harrison Chase & Co. 157, Fleet Street.

PROBOSCIS MONKEY.

THERE appears, in the aspect of this singular animal, such an extravagant and disgusting union of caricature, between the Human and the Monkey race, that the figure would seem to be the result of a whimsical and not very felicitous fancy, rather than any delineation after nature; were we not assured, that the original, which was first described by Monsieur D'Aubenton, is preserved in the Royal Cabinet at Paris. It is the *Simia Nasalis*, of Gmelin's Linnæus; the Long-Nosed Guenon, of Buffon; and the Proboscis Monkey, of Pennant and other English naturalists.

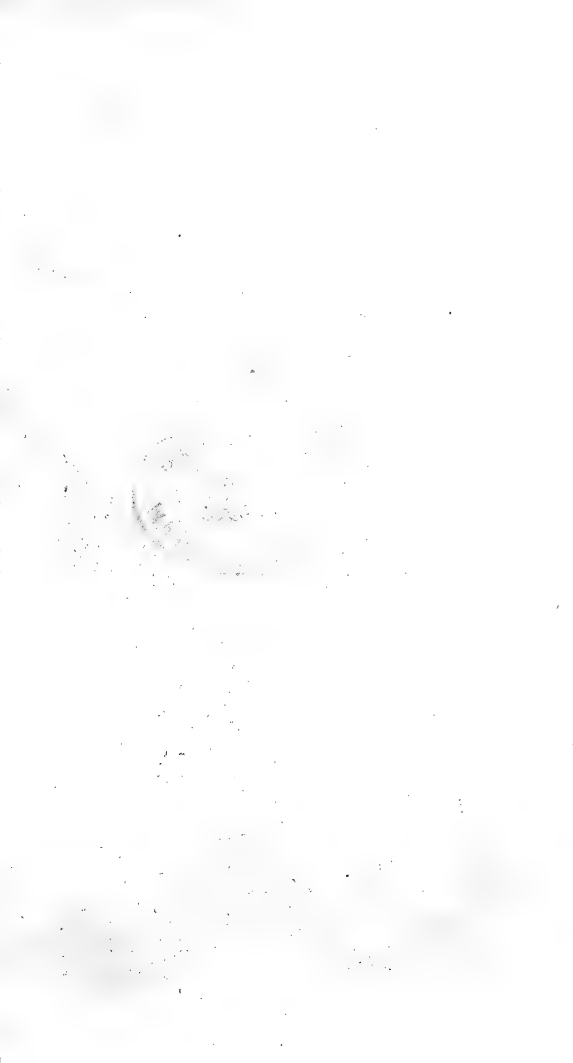
This animal is said to attain to a very large size. The subject described by M. D'Aubenton, and which is represented in the annexed print, measured only two feet, from the tip of the nose to the tail: the tail was above two feet long.

Pennant has described the Proboscis Monkey as having a nose which projects very far beyond the mouth, like the human, but divided all along the middle by a shallow furrow.

PROBOSCIS MONKEY.

row: in the profile figure, it exactly resembles a long proboscis, and makes a ridiculous appearance. The forehead hangs far over the base of the nose. The face is hooked, of a brown colour, marked with blue and red. The head is covered with thick hair, of a chesnut brown. The ears, which are broad, thin, and naked, are hid in the fur. The body is large, and cloathed with chesnut-brown hair: on the breast, it is of an orange-colour. Round the throat, neck, and shoulders, the hair is longer than that on the rest of the body, and forms a sort of short cloak. The legs are covered with short tawny hair."

The Proboscis Monkey is by some called an East-Indian animal, but admitted to be extremely rare; by others, it is said to be chiefly found in Cochin-China, and to be sometimes seen there in great troops. It is considered as of a ferocious disposition, yet said to feed only on fruits. Some Cochin-Chinese, who visited the Royal Cabinet at Paris, are reported to have immediately recognized this animal; the native name of which is Khî Dôc, or the Great Monkey.





RING PARROQUET.

Published July 31. 1800. by Harrison, Clive & Co. 478. Fleet Street.

RING PARROQUET.

WE have, after Edwards, named this beautiful bird simply the Ring Parroquet. It is the *Psittacus Alexandri*, of Linnæus; the *Psittacus Cubicularis*, of Hasselquist; the *Psittacus Torquatus*, of Aldrovandus, and of Ray; the *Psittaca Torquata*, of Brisson; the Great Red-Collared Parroquet, of Buffon; the Alexandrine Parroquet, of Latham; and the Ring Parroquet, of Willughby, and of Edwards.

“ Pliny, and Solinus,” says Buffon, “ have both described the Green Collared-Parroquet; which was the only one known in their time, and which came from India. Apuleius describes it with that elegance which he usually affects; and says, that it’s plumage is of a pure brilliant green. The only interruption of this colour is, according to Pliny, a half-collar of bright red on the top of the neck. Aldrovandus, who has collected all the particulars, leaves no room to doubt that the

Long-

Long-Tailed and Collared Parrot of the ancients is the same with the Red-Collared Great Parroquet of this article. There are two circumstances sufficient to evince this: the first is the breadth of the collar, which about the middle is the thickness of the little finger; and the second, that there is a red spot which marks the top of the wing. Both these are peculiarly the properties of this Parroquet. It is equally beautiful with the rest of the tribe. It's plumage is of a lively light green on the head, and deeper on the wings and the back; the rosy half-collar embracing the back of the neck, joins on the sides to the black bar that covers the throat; the breast is of a vermilion red; and there is a purple spot on the crown of the head. The tail is beautiful, and longer than the body; it's upper surface mixed with green and beryl, it's under surface of a delicate yellow. The bird is found, not only in the south of the continent of Asia; but, also, in the adjacent islands, and at Ceylon: for this is Taprobana; from whence Alexander's fleet brought the first Parrot into Greece."

This is the entire account given by Buffon of Linnæus's *Psittacus Alexandri*; which evidently derives it's trivial name from the circumstance of having been first noticed during the Indian expedition of Alexander the Great.

As we have copied the excellent figure of Edwards, we shall make use of his very exact description. We cannot, however, adopt his idea, that this bird may possibly be the Male of the Blue-Headed Parroquet, which he has delineated on the same plate.

“ The Ring Parroquet, and the Blue-Headed Parroquet, are both of the same shape and make, every way; and may, possibly, be Male and Female: their size is that of a Dovehouse or Wild Pigeon. Both these birds have their bills wholly red; the insides of their eyes orange-coloured; and a narrow flesh-coloured skin on the basis of their bills, in which the nostrils are placed: they have each of them, also, a little space of flesh-coloured skin round their eyes. The legs and feet in both are ash-coloured.

“ The

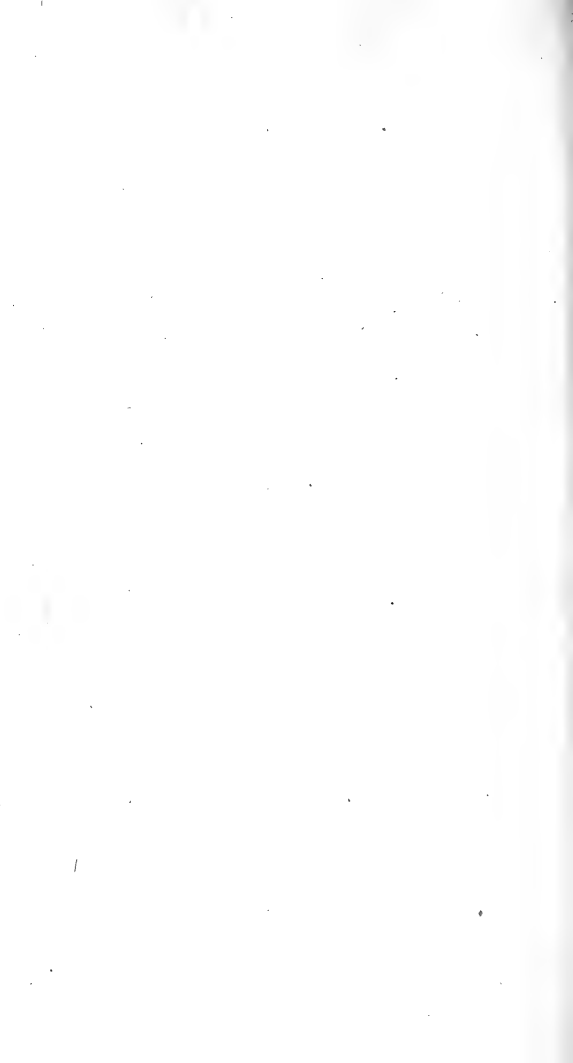
“ The Ring Parroquet has the top and sides of the head green. A black line proceeds from the lower mandible of the bill, downward a little way; then parts into two lines, which turn backward on the sides of the neck, forming a black line round the neck, which almost meets behind. On the hinder part of the neck, above this black ring, the feathers are blue; and, under the black line, passes a bar of red feathers. The body, both above and beneath, is green: though somewhat lighter on the under side; the back, and upper sides of the wings, being darker, and of a blue-green. The quills, and covert-feathers next above them within-side the wings, are of a mouse-colour; the lesser coverts, of a light blueish green; and it has a red spot on the lesser covert-feathers without-side the wings. The upper side of the tail is of a blue-green; the under-side, of a dusky-yellow, or olive-colour: the middle feathers measured thirteen inches; they gradually shorten toward the sides.”

Edwards, who blends his account of the Ring Parroquet with that of the Blue-Headed Parroquet,

RING PARROQUET.

Parroquet, adds that " these birds were both brought alive to London in one of our East-India Company's ships. The first, Willughby says, is the *Psittacus* of the ancients ; and the only one known in Europe from the time of Alexander the Great to the age of Nero. The Blue-Headed," concludes Edwards, " is the only one I have seen of it's kind ; and, I believe, no figure or description of it has been before given. I drew them both from the living birds. There is frequently brought from India another species of the Ring Parroquet, which differ hardly any thing from what is here described ; except in magnitude, which does not exceed that of a Blackbird, and in wanting the red spot on the wing."

As we do not by any means approve of calling the larger birds of the Parrot kind, either Parroquets or Parrakeets, we should incline to name the *Psittacus Alexandri* the Ring-Parrot, and the bird last mentioned by Edwards the Ring Parroquet.







COFFEE TREE.

Published July 2, 1890 by Harrison, Cluse & Co. 178 Fleet Street.

COFFEE-TREE.

COFFEA, the Linnæan name of that genus of plants which is by us denominated the Coffee-Tree, is said to be derived from Caffa, a kingdom in Africa, where it grows in great abundance.

This genus is placed, by Linnæus, in the first order of his fifth class; that is, among the Pentandria Monogynia; and in the natural order of Stellatæ. It has ten known species—1. The *Coffea Arabica*, or Eastern Coffee-Tree; 2. the *Coffea Occidentalis*, or Western Coffee-Tree; 3. the *Coffea Racemosa*; 4. the *Coffea Zanguebariæ*; 5. the *Coffea Guianensis*; 6. the *Coffea Paniculata*; 7. the *Coffea Sambucina*; 8. the *Coffea Opu-lina*; 9. the *Coffea Odorata*; and, 10. the *Coffea Triflora*.

The first and principal species, which is that we have figured and shall particularly describe, rises sixteen or eighteen feet in it's native country, and ten or twelve in Europe.

The

The main stem grows upright, and is covered with a light brown bark. The branches are horizontal, opposite, brachiate at every joint, long, simple or undivided, slender, smooth, lax, and inclined to bend downwards: the lower branches are longest; the others gradually decreasing, to the top, so as to form a pyramid. The leaves, when fully grown, are four or five inches long, and an inch and a half broad in the middle: they are opposite, and ovate-lanceolate; the borders waved, the surface smooth, and of a lucid green, paler beneath. The petiole is only two or three lines in length; and, from the sides of the mid-rib, which is a continuation of it, issue twenty or more secretory punctures. The leaves generally continue three years. The flowers are produced in clusters of from two to four, at the base of the leaves, sitting close to the branches: they are of a pure white, and have a very grateful odour, but are of short duration. These flowers are succeeded by green berries; which become red when they attain their full size, and change to black as they grow ripe. The berries are of an oblong spheroidal form; with a little circular area at the top, surrounding

ing a callous dot: the pulp is pale, insipid, and gelatinous. There are two cells within, the partition of which is fleshy and vascular; this is the only receptacle, and penetrates the cleft of the seeds. In each cell there is only a single seed; which is of an elliptic form, convex on one side and flat on the other, with a longitudinal cleft: it is of a pale glaucous colour; and loosely covered by an elastic, diaphanous aril, the substance of paper.

The agreeable beverage which we call Coffee, prepared from the berry of this tree, is said to have been used in Æthiopia from time immemorial.

According to Mr. Bruce, the Galla, a wandering nation of Africa, in their incursions on Abyssinia, being obliged to traverse immense deserts, and being also desirous of falling on the Abyssinians without warning, that they may be encumbered as little as possible with baggage, carry nothing with them to eat but Coffee roasted till it can be pulverized, mixed with butter into balls, and placed in a leather bag: one of these, about the size of a billiard ball,

ball, keeps them, as they say, in strength and spirits during a whole day's fatigue, better than a loaf of bread or a meal of meat. If this be admitted as fact, we must regret that the use of Coffee is not better understood in the most enlightened nations of Europe, where there seems abundant necessity for some extraordinary succedaneum to supply the alarming deficiency of those articles in our ordinary food! This is a serious subject, and experiments may be worth trying.

The use of Coffee is said to have been introduced into Arabia, from Persia, only about the middle of the fifteenth century: from whence it soon reached Mecca, Medina, Grand Cairo, Damascus, and Aleppo; and, at length, in 1554, became known at Constantinople. Even the Venetians, notwithstanding the proximity of their dominions, and their great trade to the Levant, do not appear to have been acquainted with it for more than half a century afterwards.

Public Coffee-Houses were first established in France in the year 1671; when they soon became

became so general, that at Paris alone they amounted to three hundred.

In England, Coffee had been somewhat earlier introduced; for, in 1652, Mr. Daniel Edwards, a Turkey merchant, brought home with him Pasqua Rossee, a Ragusian Greek servant, who first kept a house for the sale of this beverage in George Yard, Lombard Street; or, rather, according to Mr. Houghton, in a shed in the church-yard of St. Michael's, Cornhill. The famous Dr. Harvey is said to have used it frequently still earlier.

About the year 1690, the Dutch governor of Batavia, having procured some berries from Mocha, raised many plants, and sent one over to the garden at Amsterdam. From these, it is said, the East Indies, and most of the gardens in Europe, have been originally furnished. In 1696, it was cultivated at Fulham, by Bishop Compton.

The first plant of the Coffee-Tree was carried to Jamaica about the year 1730, by Sir Nicholas Laws; and twenty-two years afterwards,

wards, the annual export from that island was rated at 60,000 pounds weight: in 1775, it had reached 440,000 pounds. The Jamaica planters are said to have discovered the art of cultivating, picking, and curing the berries, so as to make their Coffee equal to the growth of Arabia.

Miller informs us, that “ a curious gentleman, who resided in Barbadoes two years, told him, that “ he never drank better Coffee, “ in any part of the world, than what he made “ from the fresh berries, which he gathered “ himself, and roasted as he had occasion to “ use them.” This account,” adds Miller, “ is confirmed by trials with berries produced in our English stoves ; which make a better flavoured liquor than the best Arabian Coffee-berries that can be procured in England.”

The Coffee-Tree having been transported to Europe, and to the possessions of Europeans, both in the East and West Indies, from Arabia, has been commonly supposed to be indigenous of that country: but it seems, from Mr. Bruce’s account, to have been originally brought from
the

the kingdom of Caffa, the south province of Narea, in Africa; for it is, he tells us, the wood of the country, produced spontaneously every where in great abundance, from Caffa to the banks of the Nile.

Coffee is named by the Persians, Cahwa, and Coho; by the Turks, Chaube, and Cahvey; by the Arabians, Cachua, Caoua, and Cahouah; and, by the Egyptians, Eleave.

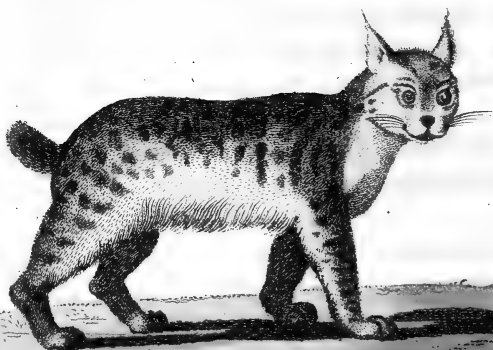
The Coffee-Tree, being an ever-green, makes a beautiful appearance, at every season, in the stove: but, particularly, when it is in flower; and, also, when the berries are red, which is generally in winter. As it continues a long time in this last state, there is scarcely any plant which better deserves a place in the stove.

It is chiefly propagated by the berries, which must be fresh-gathered. The plants thus raised, produce fruit in two years from the time of planting; and, in hot climates, sooner. Plantations of the Coffee-Tree may therefore be soon made in countries where the air is of a proper temperature. But they will not grow in

in the open air, where there is any winter ; so that, in all countries without the tropics, they must not be expected to thrive abroad.

The seeds are recommended to remain on the trees till the skin shrivels and turns black : they should be pulped and dried as soon as possible ; and then husked and cleared from all their outward coverings. They are afterwards to be winnowed, cleared, and again exposed to the sun for some days, before being casked. The preparation of Coffee, consists in roasting it, or giving it a just degree of torrefaction, on an earthen or metalline plate, till it acquires a brownish hue equally deep on all sides. It is then fit for grinding, which should only be done as it is used. The European method of making Coffee is sufficiently known. The Arabians, when they take their Coffee off the fire, immediately wrap the vessel in a wet cloth, which instantly fines the liquor, makes it cream at top, and occasions a more pungent steam, which they take great pleasure in snuffing up as the Coffee is pouring into the cups. Like all the nations of the East, they drink their Coffee without sugar.





CANADIAN LYNX.

Published Aug. 7th 1800. by Harrison, Clow, & Co. 179 St. Street.

CANADIAN LYNX.

THE Canadian Lynx, or *Lynx Canadensis* of the Linnæan system, is a native of Canada, as the name obviously imports.

Buffon notices this animal in his history and description of the Common Lynx; but it was not either figured or described, till he introduced it in his Supplement.

We have copied his figure, and shall adopt his description, of the Canadian Lynx.

“ We here,” says Buffon, “ give the figure of a Canadian Lynx, from an excellent specimen in the Royal Cabinet. It is only two feet three inches long, from the tip of the nose to the origin of the tail; and from twelve to thirteen inches high. The body is covered with long greyish hair, mixed with white and striped with yellow. The spots are more or less black. The head is greyish, blended with white and bright yellow hairs; and striped, as it were, with black, in some parts. The tip

tip of the nose, as well as the margin of the under jaw, is black. The whiskers are white, and about three inches long. The ears are two inches three lines high; garnished in the inside with large white hairs, and with yellowish hairs on the edges. The outer side of the ear is covered with mouse-coloured hair, and the external margins are black. At the extremity of each ear, there is a large thin pencil of black hairs seven lines high. The tail, which is thick, short, and well furnished with hair, is only three inches nine lines in length: from the extremity, to the middle, it is black; and, afterwards, of a reddish white colour. The under part of the belly, the hind-legs, the inside of the fore-legs, and the feet, are of a dirty white. The claws are white, and about six lines long.

“ This Lynx has a great resemblance, both in the spots and nature of the hair, to that of the Common Lynx, whose figure we have given; but it differs in the length of the tail, and the pencils on the ears. The Canadian Lynx, therefore, may be regarded as a variety, very different from the Lynx of the Old Continent.

continent. It may even be said to make a near approach to the Caracal, by the pencils on it's ears: but it differs from the Caracal still more than from the Lynx, by the length of the tail and the colour of the hair. Besides, the Caracal is only found in warm countries; but the Lynx prefers cold climates. The pencil of hair on the tips of the ears, which is regarded as a distinctive character, is only accidental; and appears in animals of this species, and even in the Domestic and Wild Cats. Of this," observes Buffon, "we have given an example in the Supplement to the article Cat. Hence we persist in believing, that the American Lynx is only a variety of the European species.

"The Norwegian Lynx, described by Pontoppidan, is white, or of a bright grey colour, interspersed with deep spots. It's claws, like those of other Lynxes, resemble the claws of Cats. It elevates it's back, and springs on it's prey with equal quickness and address. When attacked by a Dog, it lies down on it's back, and repels the enemy by repeated strokes of it's claws. This author adds, that there
are,

are, in Norway, four species: that some of them approach the figure of the Wolf; others, that of the Fox; others, that of the Cat; and, lastly, that there are others, the head of which resembles that of a Colt. This last fact, which I believe to be false, creates the most violent suspicion with regard to all the rest. The author adds some articles which are more probable.

“ The Lynx,” says Pontoppidan, “ does
“ not go about the country, but conceals itself
“ in woods and caverns. It makes it’s retreat
“ deep and winding; from which it can be
“ expelled by fire and smoke only. It’s sight
“ is piercing, and it spies it’s prey at a very
“ great distance. It often eats no more of a
“ Sheep or a Goat than the brain, the liver,
“ and the intestines; and it digs under the
“ doors, in order to gain admission into the
“ sheep-folds.”

“ The species of the Lynx,” adds Buffon,
“ is not only spread over Europe, but all the
northern provinces of Asia. In Tartary, these
animals are called Chulon, or Chelason.

Their

Their skins are highly valued; and, though very common, sell equally dear in Norway, Russia, and even as far as China, where they are much used for muffs and other furs.

“That the pencils of hair,” concludes Buffon, “on the tips of the ears, form not a distinctive character, appears from this fact—that there exists, in the district of Algar, called Constantine, a species of Caracal without these pencils, and which resembles the Lynx, except that it’s tail is longer. The colour of it’s hair is reddish, with longitudinal black stripes from the neck to the tail, detached spots on the flanks disposed in the same direction, a black half circle on the top of the fore-legs, and a band of rough hair on all the four legs, extending from the extremity of the foot to above the heel: and this hair inclines upward; instead of downward, like the hair of every other part of the body.”

Such is the account given by Buffon, in his Supplement to the article Lynx, accompanying his figure of the Canadian species.

He had before remarked, that “the finest skins of the Lynx came from Siberia, under the name of Loup-Cervier; and from Canada, under that of Chat-Cervier: because these animals, like all others, are smaller in the New than in the Old Continent. In the former, they are compared to the Wolf; in the latter, to the Cat ”

The epithet Cervarius is said to be given to the Lynx, because it attacks the Stag; but Buffon ingeniously suggests, that it rather arises from the skin being variegated with spots like that of the young Stag.

In the Description des Côtés l’Amerique Septentrionale, it is said, that “the Lynx of North America—or our Canadian Lynx—is a kind of Cat, but much larger;” that “it climbs trees, and lives on the animals which it seizes;” that “it’s hair is long, of a greyish white colour, and makes an excellent fur:” and, that “it’s flesh is white, and affords good eating.”

We learn, also, from M. Sarasin, and from Charlevoix,

Charlevoix, that “in the woods of Canada, there are a great many Wolves: or, rather, Chat-Cerviers; for they have nothing in common with the Wolf, but a kind of howling: in every other respect,” says M. Sarasin, “they are *ex genere felino*. They are excellent hunters; and live entirely on game, which they pursue to the tops of the highest trees. Their flesh is white, and good for eating. Their skin and hair are well known in France as a valuable branch of commerce.”





GUIRA GUACUBERA.

Published Aug 7th 1850 by Harrison, Chase & Co. 178 Fleet Street.

GUIRA-GUACUBERABA.

HAVING taken our figure of this bird from Edwards, we have also adopted the native name under which he has described it.

It is the *Motacilla Guira*, of Linnæus and Gmelin; the *Sylvia Brasiliensis Viridis*, of Brisson; the *Guira-Beraba*, of Buffon; the *Guira Warbler*, of Latham; and the *Guira-Guacuberaba*, of Marcgrave, Ray, and Edwards.

Buffon seems merely to have abridged the native name, for the sake of making it somewhat more familiar; a liberty which he frequently takes with the “*sesquipedalia verba*” of the South Americans.

“This bird,” says Buffon, “which Marcgrave has described, appears to me to belong to the Pitpits; though his account is not sufficiently compleat to preclude it’s being ranged with the Fig-Eaters. It is as large as the Goldfinch; which exceeds the ordinary size of
of

Eaters; and for this reason," he adds, " we have placed the Middle-Bills between them and the Fig-Eaters. The tail of the Pitpits is also square at it's termination; while, in the Fig-Eaters, it is somewhat forked. These two characters, drawn from the bill and the tail, are a sufficient foundation for forming two genera of these birds,"

To this general account by Buffon, we shall annex the following particular description given by Edwards to accompany his very accurate figure of the Guira-Guacuberaba.

" The bill is moderately thick; dusky above, and of a flesh-colour beneath. A narrow border of black surrounds the basis of the upper mandible, and extends in breadth on the sides of the head under the eyes to the place of the ears, and round the lower mandible it reaches nearly an inch down the throat. The top of the head, the hinder side of the neck, the back, the wings, and the tail, are of a pleasant olive-green colour. A yellow line passes round the forehead, over the eye, and down the sides of the neck, and divides the black on the fore-
part

part of the head from the green on the crown and neck. The fore-part of the neck and breast are of a fine orange-colour, which gradually changes to yellow. The thighs, belly, and covert-feathers both above and beneath the tail, are also of a bright yellow. On the rump, the feathers are orange-coloured; which changes to yellow, where they meet the coverts of the tail. The tips of the quills tend to a dusky colour, and the edges of some of the outer quills are of a brighter green than the other parts. The inner coverts of the wings are of a cream-colour: the insides of the quills are light ash-coloured, the edges of their inner webs whitish. The tail has twelve feathers, of a light ash-colour on their under sides. The legs and feet are black."

Edwards adds, that "the Guira is in the collection of Earl Ferrers;" that "it is a bird of Brasil and it's neighbourhood;" and, that "it has been figured in small by Marcgrave, whose figure, though mean, has been copied, turned, tortured, and almost lost, by being tossed from compiler to compiler, ever since Marcgrave's time."



POTATOE-APPLE FLOWER, OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

Published Aug 7. 1800. by Harrison, Clive & Co. 478. Fleet Street.

POTATOE-APPLE FLOWER, OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

THE plant to which we have given the name of Potatoe-Apple Flower, merely from the similarity of bloom and external fruit to that of the famous edible root, though the leaves are totally different, is a native of New South Wales, and has never been before figured or described.

It is an exact copy from one of the many drawings of New South Wales plants, &c. with which we have been favoured: but, being unaccompanied by the smallest memorandum whatever; and the friend who obliged us with them being unable to afford us any other information respecting this particular plant, than that he thinks it's fruit was found edible, and that it appeared to him somewhat of the *Convolvulus* family; we must leave to future discovery whatever relates to this plant, more than is conveyed by a figure unquestionably accurate, on a scale of about half the natural size.





FLYING CALICO.

Published by the American Museum of Natural History, New York.

FLYING COLUGO.

THE animal here figured under the name of the Flying Colugo, is in fact a variety of the Flying Maucauco which we formerly described. Our figure, on that occasion, was copied from Pennant, who had taken it from a dried specimen in the British Museum: the present, from Dr. Pallas, was derived from the living animal, and first published in the Petersburg Transactions, under the appellation of the Galeopithecus.

The name Galeopithecus, indeed, seems to be the agreed denomination of this genus among late naturalists; who now generally call it the Galeopithecus Volans, or Flying Colugo.

Linnæus, who had no opportunity to examine the generical characters of these animals, but derived all the knowledge of them which he possessed from the figures and descriptions of authors, has stationed them in the genus Lemur, to which he considered them as most nearly allied: but, with a wise precaution, in
itself

itself implying considerable doubt, he observed that, as it's teeth were not regularly known, it's true genus could not possibly be determined.

The genuine characters of this genus appeared to have been first ascertained by Dr. Pallas in the description with which he accompanied the excellent figure annexed, in the Transactions of the Academy of Petersburg for the year 1780.

The Flying Colugo has, however, been since very minutely described by several naturalists: but it is remarked, that Buffon has entirely omitted to notice this animal; though it had, in his time, been mentioned by various other authors, as well as by the great Linnæus.

The Galeopithecus Volans, or Flying Colugo, is in truth the Lemur Volans, or Flying Maucauco, of Linnæus; the Vespertilio Admirabilis, of Bontius; the Felis Volans Ternatea, of Seba; the Cato-Simius Volans Camelli, of Petiver; the Galeopithecus, of Pallas; and the Flying Maucauco, of Pennant.

These

These different names, it is to be observed, include two species, or rather varieties; which are not always easy to discriminate in the various accounts. Perhaps, from some of the above denominations, Buffon might be induced to consider these animals as merely varieties of his Vampyre, or Spectre. It is, indeed, impossible to deny their great affinity.

We have observed, in our account of the Flying Maucauco, that this animal is said to be called by the Indians Caguang, Colugo, and Gigua. Bontius, by whom it seems to have been first described in his History of Java, informs us that these animals are found at Guzurat; that they are gregarious, and fly principally in the evening; that their bodies, which are about the size of a Cat, are covered on the upper part with a soft grey fur like that of a Rabbit; that their heads are oblong, and their ears small and round; that they have five strong claws on each foot, by which they firmly hold whatever they fix on; and, that they feed chiefly on fruits.

In Camelli's enumeration of the animals of
the

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In Camelli's enumeration of the animals of
the

the Philippine Islands, published in the Philosophical Transactions by Petiver, the *Catosimius Volans*, is described as being about the size of a Cat; and shaped like a Monkey, but more slender. It is, he says, generally three spans long, from head to tail: but grows, in some particular places, to a much larger size; so as to equal, in it's expansion, the magnitude of a Chinese umbrella. The upper parts of the animal he describes as of a dusky colour, elegantly variegated with whitish streaks on the back, which run beyond the body over the membrane or flying skin. He compares the face to that of a Monkey; and the manner of the animal's flight to that of the Flying Squirrel. The young, he adds, adhere to the teats of their mother, by the mouth and claws. In a Latin manuscript of Camelli's, preserved in the British Museum, he expressly asserts, that the Female is furnished with two sacs or pouches on her belly, in which she carries her young while they are sucking.

From this last circumstance, we are induced to suppose, that the animal may approximate the race of Opossums more than has hitherto
been

been imagined: especially, when we reflect that, among other similitudes, the tongue, according to Dr. Pallas, is fleshy, broad, rounded, attenuated on the edges, and ciliated with papillæ, as in the Opossums: it is, also, he adds, slightly beset with papillæ on it's surface.

Mr. Geoffroy, who seems to have examined with peculiar minuteness and accuracy the specimens of this genus in the Museum of the Prince of Orange, observes that this animal, in the form and disposition of the teeth, differs not only from the Lemurs, but from all other quadrupeds. He is also of opinion, that the foremost of those teeth which Dr. Pallas considers as canine, should in truth be considered as cutting teeth; since, as he observes, they are inserted into the incisive or intermaxillary bone. Indeed, all the teeth, taken together, are of so anomalous a cast as to make it difficult to discover the particular intention of Nature in their formation: but Mr. Geoffroy inclines to think that they are best calculated for feeding on insects, though the animal is usually described as subsisting on fruits.

The

The cœcum, Mr. Geoffroy remarks, in a specimen dissected by Monsieur Cuivier, was extremely large and voluminous; though, in the Bat, to which the Flying Colugo must be permitted to bear considerable affinity, that part appears to be wanting.

According to Mr. Geoffroy, there are two varieties of the Colugo: the one, like our Flying Maucauco, of a cinereous colour, with transverse darker and lighter undulations; the other, like the present figure, of a fine cinnamon or ferruginous colour, most vivid on the back, and paler beneath, and without any kind of variegation. There are, also, some trifling differences in this reddish kind, from those of the grey; but they are not such as to enable us to decide whether they are the result of age or of some specific difference. They may seem, however, sufficient to oppose the notion, that the distinctions are merely sexual; as has been, perhaps too hastily, suggested. It seems probable, that they are rather local varieties.

The animals of this genus, figured in Seba,
it

it has been remarked, are described as of a ferruginous colour, both above and below; yet, in the coloured copies of that work, and particularly in the copy preserved in the British Museum, and which was once the property of Sir Hans Sloane, they appear of a very deep or blackish cinereous on the upper surface, and of a pale ferruginous beneath.

On the whole, it appears evident that there is a vast variety of what may be denominated Flying Quadrupeds with membranaceous wings; particularly, in the remoter parts of Asia, Africa, and South America: and that these, in many respects, resemble the Bats of Europe and other milder regions. So that, we conceive, what are called Flying Maucaucos, Flying Lemurs, Flying Colugos, Flying Cats, Flying Monkeys, Flying Opossums, Flying Squirrels, &c. as they are more or less conceived to approximate, in general appearance, those respective animals—as well as the Vampyres, the Spectres, &c. the Harpies of the ancients—should all form one grand order or division of animals, connecting the feathered race with the quadrupeds, by various

ous

ous gradations, not always easy to be assigned their exact proper stations in the wonderful chain of nature; just as, in the Seals, and other aquatic quadrupeds, we find equally near approaches to the finny tribes.





WHITE FACED MANAKIN.

Published Aug¹⁶ 1800. by Harrison. New York. 1878. West Street.

WHITE-FACED MANAKIN.

THE excellent print of this bird is copied from Edwards, by whom it was first figured and described under the name which we have also adopted. It is the *Pipra Albifrons*, of Linnæus; the White Plume, of Buffon; and the White-Faced Manakin, of Latham and of Edwards.

The original, from which Edwards drew his excellent figure, was one of the many curious birds taken by Earl Ferrers in a French prize, and preserved in his valuable collection. Edwards observes, that it is a native of Guiana and Terra Firma in South America; and, that he cannot find any figure or description agreeing with it, so that he believes it had not till then been figured or described.

The description which he gives of this individual bird is as follows—"The bill is straight, sharp-pointed, and black. The crown of the head, the throat, and the fore-part of the head all round the bill, are white. The feathers on the

the

the crown are long, narrow, and pointed, and form a crest when erect. From the hinder part of the head, behind the eyes, and round under the throat, is continued a black or dusky broken line, which encompasses all the white space on the head and throat. Part of the neck behind, the upper part of the back, and the wings without-side, are of a dark blueish ash-colour. The inner coverts of the wings are cinnamon-colour: the quills beneath are ash-coloured, a little lighter than they are above. The hinder part of the head, the fore part of the neck, the breast, belly, rump, and the tail on both sides with the covert-feathers both above and beneath it, are of a bright cinnamon-colour. The legs and feet are of a light reddish yellow; the claws are dusky; the feathers are also dusky above the knees. The outer and middle toes adhere to each other almost to the claws in a remarkable manner."

Buffon considers this bird as of a species related to the Manakin, but not absolutely a Manakin. His account is short, and we shall annex it to that of Edwards.

" This

“ This species,” says the great French naturalist, “ is new. It is found in Guiana, but rare. M. De Manoncour presented a specimen to the King’s cabinet. It is distinguished by a very long white crest, consisting of feathers about an inch in length, and which it erects at pleasure. It differs from the Manakins by it’s size : being six inches long ; whereas the largest of the Manakins is only four inches and a half. The tail, too, is long and tapered ; which, in the Manakins, is short and square : and the bill is much longer in proportion, and more hooked, than that of the Manakins. Indeed, the only property in which it resembles the Manakins, is the arrangement of the toes ; and, but for this character, it might be ranged with the Ant-Eaters : we may regard it as forming the intermediate shade. We are quite unacquainted with it’s œconomy.”

To this short history and description, we may be permitted to add, that the *Pipra Atricapilla*, or Black Crowned Manakin, called by Edwards the Black-Capped Manakin, and which Buffon next describes under the appellation

pellation of the Cinereous Bird of Guiana, seems equally a kindred species of the Ant-Eaters with our White-Faced Manakin. They form, perhaps, part of an intermediate genus.

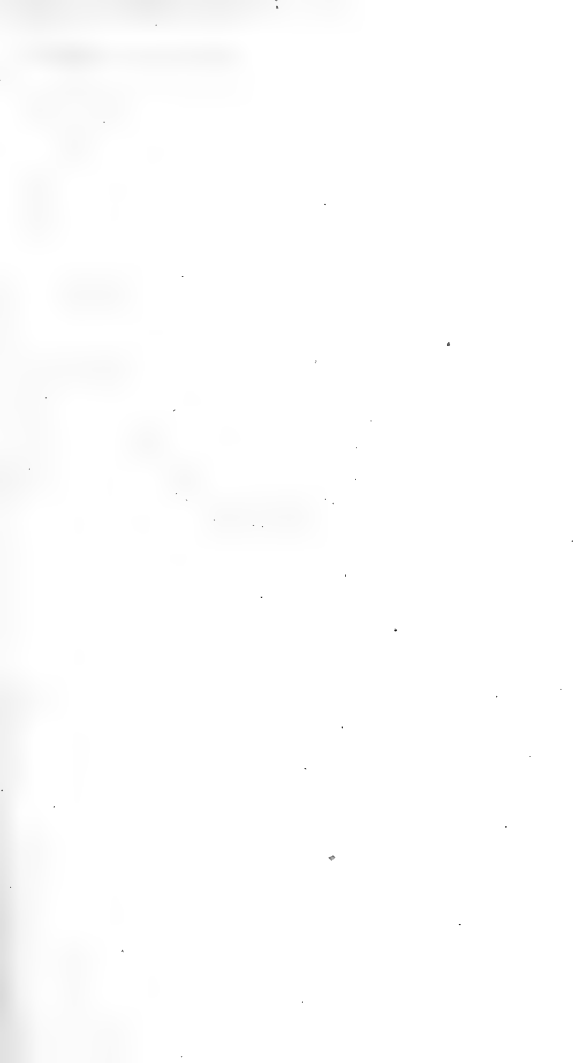
Edwards, in his plate of the Black-Capped Manakin, figures also his White-Capped Manakin. The legs and feet of this last bird, he says, are made as in the other Manakins, and of a black colour. Buffon, by whom the same bird is denominated the Middle-Bill with White Crest and Throat, and who observes that Edwards first described it, tells us, that the legs are of an orange-yellow.

The fact is, that Edwards thus describes the legs of the Black-Capped Manakin; which Buffon might seem to have mistaken for those of the White-Capped Manakin, described by Edwards in the same page, as well as figured on the same plate: yet, as Buffon minutely notices the dimensions of the bird, in all its parts, which Edwards has not done, he must either have derived his account from some other author; examined a real specimen;

or measured the figure of Edwards, by whom it was originally represented of it's natural size. We rather incline to think, that our last suggestion has actually been the case, than that he had inspected a specimen which differed in this respect from the bird described by Edwards.

Buffon also makes the bill of the White-Capped Manakin black; which Edwards, with his usual precision, informs us "is of a dark brown colour." He, too, mentions, that "the base of the upper mandible has a narrow list of black feathers round it;" which Buffon entirely omits to notice.







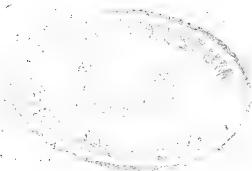
GILLIFLOWER SHRUB OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

Published by J. & S. B. Harrison, Church & Co. 47 & 48, West Street.

GILLIFLOWER SHRUB, OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

WE have no other information to accompany the present figure, than that it is a production of New South Wales: being, in fact, a branch from a beautiful thick and bushy flowering shrub, which appears exactly as it is represented in the annexed print, but reduced to about half the natural size.

The name which we have given it may serve as well as any other, till more of it's botanical character and properties can be regularly ascertained. It is not always, even then, that our nomenclators can bestow suitable appellations to discriminate the infinite varieties of nature.





FASCIATED WEASEL.

Published Aug 5th 1860, by Harrison, Plurc, & Co. N^o 78, Fleet Street.

FASCIATED WEASEL.

THE Fasciated Weasel appears to have been first figured and described by Sonnerat, in his celebrated Voyages. It is the *Viverra Fasciata*, or Striped Fitchet, of Gmelin's *Linnaeus*; and is sometimes denominated, the Grey Weasel with Six Longitudinal Black Bands. Sonnerat calls it, the Wild Cat of the Indies with Black Bands.

It does not appear to us, that subsequent naturalists have added any thing essential to what Sonnerat mentions with regard to the history and description of this animal.

It measures, as he tells us, two feet from the head to the tail; the latter being nine inches long. There are, in each jaw, two cutting and sixteen canine teeth; the cutting teeth in the lower jaw being considerably stronger than those in the upper. The body is long: and the animal is covered with close and even hair, of a grey colour; tinged with reddish, on the lower parts of the head, neck, legs,

legs, and feet, but whitish on the belly. There are, on the body, six black bands. Four of these, which are straight, commence at the back of the head, and extend along the body to the tail, where they terminate: the two others, which are on each side the belly, are in a slight degree waved; beginning at the shoulders, and terminating by rounding off on the hind parts. Beneath this termination, there is a bifurcated band over the thigh. The eyes, which are lively, are of a yellow colour, with a cast of red: the pupils, in some views of the animal, appear to be oblong. The tail is almost as long as the body: it is slender; and ends in a point, like that of the Domestic Cat. The hairs on the tail are longer than those on the body; and their colour is a mixture of black and reddish. The legs are short: and each foot has five toes, which are all armed with strong crooked claws.

The Fasciated Weasel is a native of India; and, it seems probable, if it be not merely a variety of the *Viverra Zibethicus*, or Striped Skunk, it is at least nearly allied to that species. The latter, however, is an American animal,
called

called by Buffon the Conepate, and by Pennant the Striated Weasel: yet has an allowed variety of this last animal been figured, many years ago, by Mr. Catton; who tells us, that it measured twelve inches from nose to tail, and was brought from Bengal.

HISTORY



BLUE-BACKED MANAKIN.

Published by J. & W. G. Harrison, Clive & Co. 1778, Fleet Street.

BLUE-BACKED MANAKIN.

BUFFON denominates this very beautiful bird “*Le Tijé, ou Grand Manakin* :” that is, “the *Tigé, or Great Manakin*.” It is the *Pipra - Pareola*, of *Linnaeus* ; the *Manacus Cristatus Niger*, of *Brissou* ; the *Tijé-Guacu*, of *Marcgrave* and *Willughby* ; and the *Blue-Backed Manakin*, of *Edwards*, *Latham*, and others.

The figure which we have annexed, was originally etched by *Edwards* from the bird itself, and of it's natural size. “The bill,” he says, “is of a dark brown colour, blackish at the point : the feathers round the base of the upper mandible of the beak are black. The crown of the head, from eye to eye, is covered with fine red or scarlet feathers of a longish make, which it can raise in form of a crest ; the back is of a fine blue colour : all the remaining plumage is black, with a shining gloss. The legs and feet are dusky ; except
the

the outer sides of the legs, which are yellow. The feet are made as in all others of this genus, having the outer and middle toes of each foot connected at their bottoms. It has twelve feathers in it's tail."

This, with an opinion that it is a native of Surinam, and that no figure of it had ever been before published, is all the information which Edwards affords us on this occasion.

" This species," says Buffon, " has been well described by Marcgrave. It is the largest of all the Manakins. It's total length is four inches and a half, and it is nearly of the bulk of a Sparrow. The upper part of it's head is covered with fine red feathers, longer than the rest ; and which the bird can erect at pleasure, which gives it the appearance of being crested. The back, and the small superior coverts of the wings, are of a beautiful blue : the rest of the plumage is velvet black. The iris is of a fine sapphire colour : the bill is black ; and the legs are red.

" The

“ The Abbé Aubry, Rector of St. Louis,” adds Buffon, “ has in his cabinet a bird by the name of Tise-Guacu of Cuba, which is perhaps a variety of the present, arising from the difference of age or sex: the only distinction being, that the large feathers on the upper part of the head are of a dilute red, and even somewhat yellowish. The designation given to it would seem to imply that it is found in the Island of Cuba, and perhaps in other parts of America: but it is very rare at Cayenne; and is a bird of a short flight, and could therefore hardly pass from the continent to Cuba.

“ The Green Manakin with a Red Crest, is the young of this species. Several Manakins have been observed, whose plumage was interspersed with blue feathers, but the green is obscure. These birds must be frequent in the warm climates of America, for we often receive them along with other birds.”

We are informed, by Buffon, that the name Manakin was bestowed on this genus of birds
by

by the Dutch settlers at Surinam. He adds, that we know six distinct species; but, that we can only give the first, or our Blue-Backed Manakin, the name which it has in it's native region, Tijé-Guacu.

Buffon's account of the Manakins in general is as follows—"These birds," says he, "are small and handsome: the largest are not equal in size to a Sparrow, and the others are inferior to that of the Wren. The general characters are these—The bill is short, straight, and compressed on the sides near the tip: the upper mandible is convex above, and slightly scalloped on the edges; rather longer than the lower mandible, which is plain and straight. In all these birds, the tail is short and square-cut; and the toes have the same disposition as the Cock of the Rock, the Tody, and the Calao: viz. the mid-toe is closely connected to the outer toe by a membrane, as far as the third joint, and the inner toe as far as the first joint only. But, as much as in that circumstance they resemble the Cock of the Rock, so much are they removed from the Cotingas:
yet

yet some authors have ranged the Manakins with the Cotingas; and others have joined them with the Sparrows, with the Titmice, with the Linnets, with the Tanagres, and with the Wren. Other nomenclators are more culpable, for denominating them Pipra; or for classing them together with the Cock of the Rock, to which they bear no analogy, except in this disposition of the toes and in the square shape of the tail: for, besides the total disproportion in size—the Cock of the Rock being as large, compared with the Manakins, as the Common Hen compared with the Sparrow—there are many other obvious characters which distinguish them; their bill is much shorter in proportion, they are generally not crested, and in those which have a crest it is not double, as in the Cock of the Rock, but formed by single feathers somewhat larger than the rest. We ought, therefore, to remove from the Manakins, not only the Horn-Bills, but the Cock of the Rock, and reckon them an independent genus.

“ The natural habits, common to them all,
were

were not till lately known; and the observations which have been made, are still insufficient to admit an exact detail. We shall only relate the remarks communicated to us by Sonini of Manoncour, who saw many of these birds in their native climates. They inhabit the immense forests in the warm parts of America; and never emerge from their recesses, to visit the cleared grounds, or the vicinity of the plantations. They fly with considerable swiftness; but always at a small height, and to short distances. They never perch on the summits of trees, but on the middle branches. They feed on small wild fruits, and also eat insects. They generally occur in small bodies, of eight or ten of the same species; and, sometimes, intermingled with other flocks of the same genus, or even of a different genus, such as the Cayenne Warblers, &c. It is commonly in the morning that they are found thus assembled; and then seem to be joyous, and warble their delicate little notes: the freshness of the air seems to inspire the song; for they are silent during the burning heat of the day, and disperse and retire to the shade of

of the thickest parts of the forest. This habit is observed, indeed, in many kinds of birds; and even in those of the woods of France, where they collect to sing in the morning and evening: but the Manakins never assemble in the evening; and continue together, only, from sun-rise to nine or ten o'clock in the forenoon, and remain separate during the rest of the day and the succeeding night. In general, they prefer a cool, humid situation; though they never frequent marshes, or the margins of lakes."

The Six Species of Manakins described by Buffon, are—1. The Tigé, or Great Manakin: 2. the Nut-Cracker; 3. the Red Manakin; 4. the Orange Manakin; 5. the Gold-Headed, the Red-Headed, the White-Headed, and the White-Throated Manakins, which he considers as varieties only of the same species; and, 6. the Variegated Manakin.

Besides these six species, and their varieties, he observes that modern nomenclators apply the name of Manakin to four birds mentioned
by

by Seba: "and which," says he, "we shall here notice, only to shew the errors into which such artificial classifications lead."

The four birds thus referred to, are—1. Seba's Bird called *Miacatototl* by the Brasilians; 2. Seba's *Rubetra*, or Crested American Bird; 3. Seba's *Picicitli*, or the Least Crested Bird of Brasil; and, 4. Seba's *Coquantototl*, or Small Crested Bird shaped like a Sparrow.

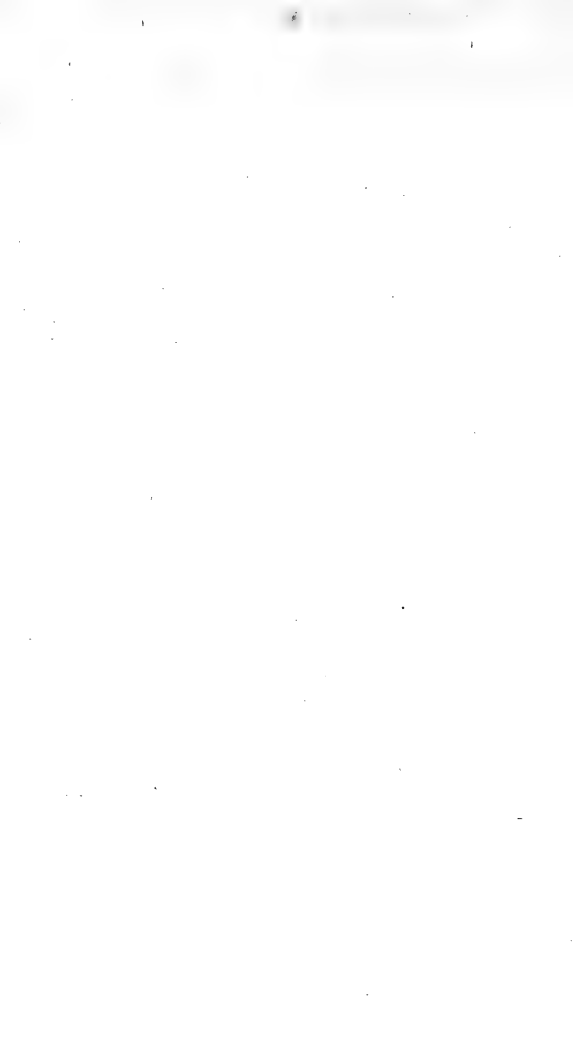
The first of these is the *Pipra Torquata*, of Gmelin; the *Manacus Torquatus*, of Brisson; and the Collared Manakin, of Latham—the second is the *Pipra Rubetra*, of Linnæus and Gmelin; the *Manacus Cristatus Rufus*, of Brisson; and the Yellow Manakin, of Latham—the third is the *Pipra Cristata*, of Linnæus and Gmelin; the *Manacus Cristatus Ruber*, of Brisson; and the Purple Manakin, of Latham—and the fourth is the *Pipra Grisea*, of Gmelin; the *Manacus Cristatus Griseus*, of Brisson; and the Grey Manakin, of Latham.

After,

After, however, ingeniously contending that neither of these birds are Manakins; he concludes with acknowledging a very imperfect acquaintance with them—

“We shall not venture, at present, to assign the rank of the four birds, but wait till inquisitive travellers may have thrown light on the subject.”

In Buffon's description of our Blue-Backed Manakin, it is observable, that he says, “the legs are red:” while Edwards notices the peculiarity of their being “dusky; except the outer sides, which are yellow.”





ROCK-FLOWER OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

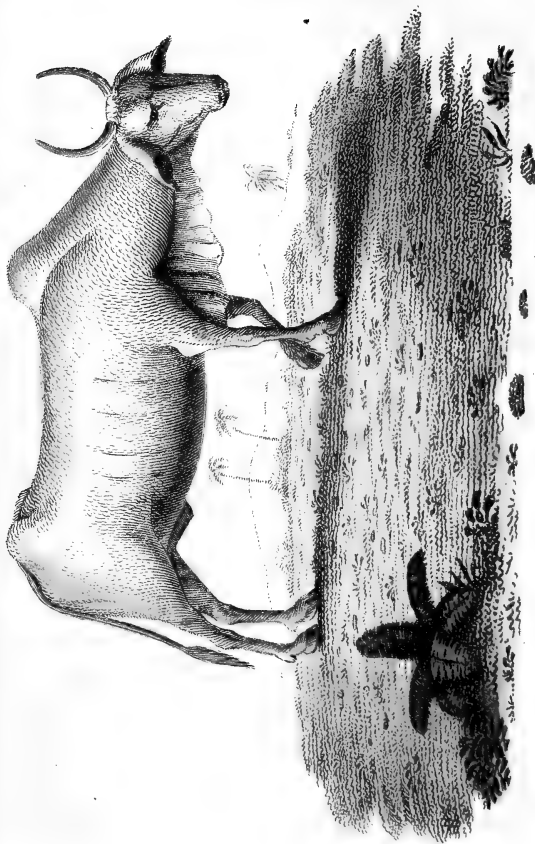
Published Aug. 1st 1800. by Harrison, Cluse, & Co. 478. Fleet Street.

ROCK-FLOWER, OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

THIS beautiful flower rises to a considerable height among the rocks on the coast of New South Wales, where it has a very pleasing appearance.

The stalk of the natural plant is proportionably much longer than it could be conveniently represented in the annexed print, without reducing the flowers to a size of diminutive insignificance.

In other respects, it may be relied on as an exact representation of nature; but we are wholly unacquainted with its history.



SURATI BUFFALO.

Published by the Government of India, Calcutta, 1874.

SURAT BUFFALO.

THE annexed figure is copied from an original drawing made at Surat. It was taken from the living animal; and we received it through the same friendly channel, as supplied us with the beautiful drawings of plants, &c. the production of New South Wales.

There appears to be much confusion, among writers of Natural History, between the various species of the Ox and of the Buffalo. This is the more to be regretted, as it seems generally agreed that the two kinds never propagate together.

As we know nothing more of the animal represented, than that it is found at Surat; that it is about the size of our Common Ox; that it is used for the same purposes; and that it is, generally, either of a whitish or a dusky dun colour, and has not all that variety of appearances which marks our European domesticated cattle, though these animals are sufficiently plentiful. The flesh of the hunch,

or protuberance, we are informed, is very delicious. These cattle are employed, at Surat, and other parts of India, for drawing in carts and carriages, and their milk is used in the dairies: for the former purpose, a ring is placed through the nose, and they are guided by means of a rope which is fastened to the ring.

With such slight information, we cannot possibly decide that the animal is in truth a Buffalo, and not an Ox, though we have ventured to denominate it the Surat Buffalo.

If it were not positively said, that the Buffalo, or *Bos Bubalus* of Linnæus, has no dewlap on the breast, whereas this animal has obviously a very large one, we should incline to think it, notwithstanding other slight dissimilarities, a mere variety of the Common Buffalo: that it is a kindred species, seems highly probable. But it must not be concealed, that there is likewise considerable foundation for supposing it to approximate the Ox: and we should, perhaps, have noticed it under the appellation of the Surat Ox, if that name had not been already given to a diminutive variety of
of

of the Indian Ox, the *Taurus Indicus Minimus* of Linnæus: this breed, called by Pen-
nant, and others, the Surat Ox, is said “to
inhabit the country near Surat, in India; to be
not larger than a great dog; to have a fierce
look; and to be used, about Surat, to draw
children in small carts.”

We may be mistaken as to what our Surat
Buffalo really is; but, from the information
which we have received, compared with this
last description, the Surat Ox it certainly is
not.





RED-BREASTED GODWIT.

Published Aug. 20. 1860 by Harrison, Plummer & Co. No. 78. Fleet Street.

RED-BREASTED GODWIT.

THIS bird is one of that genus which Buffon denominates Barges; and is his fifth species, or Rufous Barge. It is the *Scolopax Laponica*, of Linnæus; the *Limosa Rufa*, of Brisson; the *Totanus Fulvus*, of Barrere; and the Red-Breasted Godwit, of Pennant, Latham, and Edwards.

It appears to have been first figured and described by Edwards, whose excellent figure we have adopted. He informs us, that “the original bird was brought from Hudson’s Bay, by Mr. Isham, and differs very greatly in colour from any of this genus yet described; they all of them having white or light-coloured under sides; so that,” he adds, “it may justly be counted a non-descript.

“The bill measures a little more than three inches; the wing, when closed, is seven inches and a half long; the leg, from the knee to the foot, two inches and a quarter; the middle

middle toe one inch and a half. It seems to be full as big, or rather bigger than a Woodcock. The bill is long, and straight; the nostrils are placed pretty near the head: the point of the bill is black; then, becoming dusky, the better half next the head is yellow. From the bill, on each side, passes a dusky mixed line through each eye, and a whitish line above each eye. The sides of the head and throat are white, with some faint dusky spots. The top of the head; the neck all round in it's upper part, but in it's lower only behind; and the back; are covered with dark brown feathers, variegated with black dusky lines. The rump is white; the tail of a blackish brown, the feathers being tipped with whitish ash-colour. The prime quills of the wings are blackish brown, with white shafts; there is, also, a little whiteness on the edges of their webs, near their bottoms: the other quills, that fall toward the back, are of a reddish brown, and a black, interchangeably pectinated into each other on their webs. The covert-feathers immediately above the quills are brown, having white tips: the lesser coverts, on the outsides of the wing, are light brown; the

the inner coverts are dark ash, or blackish: the smaller ones, near the ridge, are tipped with white. The lower part of the neck, the breast, and belly, are of a reddish orange-colour, with small transverse lines of black on the sides, thighs, and coverts under the tail, some light ash-colour is intermixed with the orange and black. The legs are bare of feathers above the knees. The outer and middle toe are connected by a membrane a little way. This tribe of birds has it's toes pretty broad and flat at their bottoms, the better to support them from sinking in sand and wet grounds, such as they frequent. The legs, feet, and claws, are black."

Buffon gives a very slight description of this bird; which, he tells us, is seen on the coasts of France. It is found also, he observes, in the north, as far as Lapland: and, as it also occurs in America, and was sent from Hudson's Bay to England, it affords another instance of those water-fowls which are common to the northern extremities of both continents.

To those unversed in the study of Natural History, it may appear strange, to give this bird it's trivial name from the redness of it's colour, when it in truth so little approaches to red: but the adept well knows, that these characteristic traits are founded on nice comparative semblances and dissimilitudes.





PERUVIAN BARK.

Published Aug. 25th 1860, by Harrison, Cluse, & Co. N.Y.S. Bot. Gard.

PERUVIAN BARK.

THE beauty of this celebrated plant, though considerable, is it's least valuable quality. It derives it's name of most notoriety, not from it's Flower, but from it's Bark, which is admitted to be one of the grand articles in the modern materia medica.

Hence, without enquiring into it's original native appellation, it has received various names, all of them having some reference to it's medicinal use.

In England, it is generally called, by the faculty, Cortex Peruvianus, or the Peruvian Bark: it is, also, frequently denominated Cortex Jesuiticus, or Jesuits Bark.

It is the Cinchona of Botanists: who make it a genus of the monogynia order, belonging to the pentandria class of plants; and ranking, in the natural method, with those plants the order of which is doubtful. The corolla is
funnel-

funnel-shaped, with a woolly summit; the capsule inferior, bilocular, with a parallel partition.

Linnæus describes two species of the *Cinchona*—1. The *Corymbifera*, *Corymb-Bearing Cinchona*, or *White Peruvian Bark*, with oblong lanceolate leaves and axillary corymbs; and, 2. The *Officinalis*, or *Coloured Peruvian Bark*, with elliptic leaves downy underneath, and the leaves of the corolla woolly.

These two species are both natives of Peru, where they grow to the height of twenty feet. Trees of the former particularly abound in the hilly parts of Quito: they grow promiscuously in the woods, and are propagated spontaneously from the seed. Both sorts have also been found in the province of Santa Fé.

According to some authors, the Peruvians first discovered the use of the Bark, by observing certain animals instinctively led to eat it, when affected with intermittents; while others, with more appearance of probability, assert

assert that a Peruvian, while afflicted with a fit of the ague, being urged by extreme thirst to drink copiously of the water of a pool into which the trees, or their branches, had some time before fallen, received a compleat cure.

About the year 1640, the Comitissa del Cinchon, Lady of the then Spanish Viceroy, having been restored to health by the same remedy, it was called, by the Spaniards, in compliment to their Viceroy's Lady, Cortex, or Pulvis, Comitissæ Cinchona, Chinachina or Chinchina, Kinakina or Kinkina, Quinaquina or Quinquina; and, from the interest which the Cardinal de Lugo, and the Jesuit Fathers, early took in the administration of this valuable medicine, it has been very generally named Cortex, or Pulvis, Cardinalis de Lugo, Jesuiticus, Patrum, &c.

It's introduction into Europe had strong prejudices to encounter; and it was, for a considerable time, reprobated by many eminent physicians, and dreaded as a dangerous remedy. It's character, however, has at length become
universally

universally established; though, perhaps, in England, it is not even yet often administered in sufficient quantities. Such practitioners as are unsparing in it's use, seldom find it fail to prove effectual in intermittents, and even in arresting the progress of a gangrene. The discovery of this last property, is said to have arisen from it's curing that malady in an agueish patient.

For many years, that sort of Bark which is imported rolled up into short thick Quills, with a rough coat and a bright cinnamon colour in the inside, which broke brittle, was sound, and had an aromatic flavour and a bitterish astringent taste, with a degree of aromatic warmth, was generally esteemed the best; though some considered the larger pieces as of at least equal goodness: in 1779, however, the Hussar frigate having taken a Spanish ship loaded principally with Peruvian Bark, which was much larger, thicker, and of a deeper reddish colour, than the Bark in common use; it was found, on trial, at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, to be more efficacious than the Quill Bark.

This

This observation gave rise to many comparative experiments; and, in July 1782, Dr. Saunders published his account of this Red Bark. The learned and ingenious author, in this respectable work, informs us that the Small Quill Bark used in England, is either the Bark of young trees, or of the twigs or branches of the old ones; and that the large Bark, called the Red Bark, from it's deep colour, is the Bark of the trunk of the old tree. In confirmation of this, Dr. Saunders mentions, that a Mr. Arnot, who had himself gathered the Bark from the trees in Peru; and Monsieur Condamine, who gives an account of the tree in the Memoirs of the Academy of Sciences at Paris in 1738; both of them assert, that taking the Bark from an old tree effectually kills it, but that most of the young trees which are barked recover and continue healthy: for these reasons, they add, the Spaniards now bark the younger trees for foreign markets; though they still import into Spain some of the Barks of the old trees, which they esteem much more efficacious than what is procured from the young. These accounts lead Dr.

Saunders.

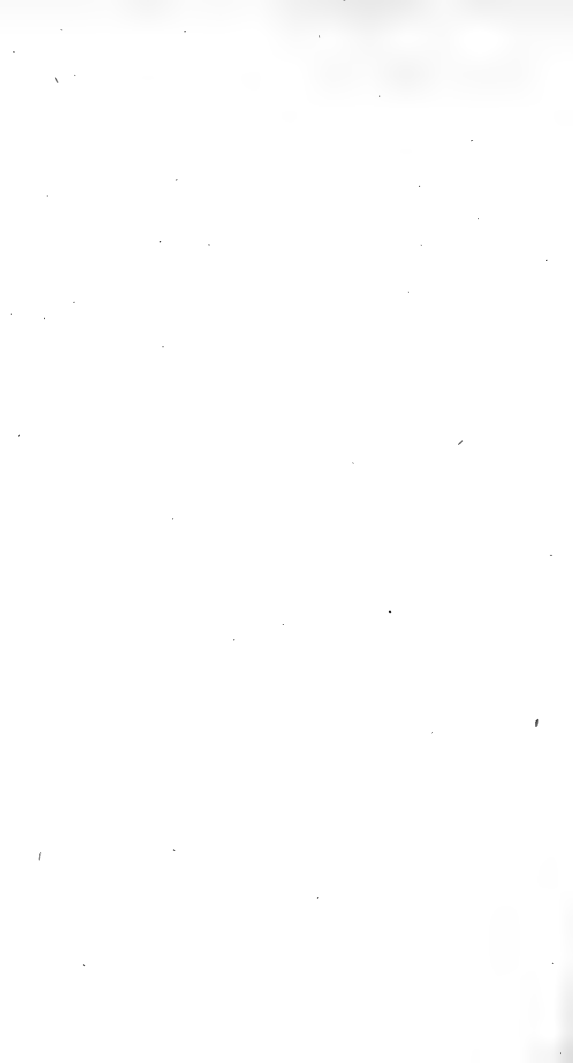
Saunders to conclude, that the Large Red Bark brought to London in the year 1779, was of the same kind as that used by Sydenham and Morton; as it answers to the description of the Bark used in their time, which is given by Dale and other writers on the *materia medica*, who were their contemporaries. Dr. Saunders says, that it is not only stronger and more resinous, but likewise more efficacious, and certain in it's effects, than the Common Bark; and, that it has cured many agues, after the other had failed.

There is another species of *Cinchona*, which has been discovered in the West India Islands; and which has been described by Dr. Wright, in the *Philosophical Transactions*, under the title of *Cinchona Jamaicensis*. It is called, in Jamaica, the Sea-Side Beech, and grows to forty feet in height.

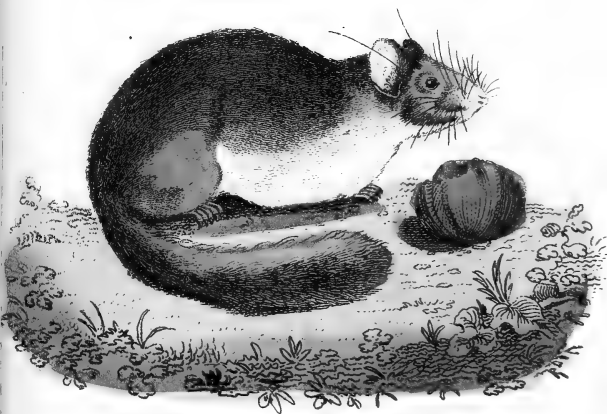
The Pale and the Red Barks are chiefly used in this country; though, in addition to these, another species has been lately introduced, called the Yellow Bark, the virtues of which are described in a Treatise by Dr. Relph.

All the Barks yield their virtues both to cold and boiling water. The officinal preparations are, 1. the Powder; 2. the Extract; 3. the Resin; 4. the Spirituous Tincture; and, 5. the Decoction.

The most efficacious form is thought to be that of the Powder; as the constituent parts are thus administered in the most effectual proportion. A judicious union of the Decoction and Tincture, however, is for many intentions greatly efficacious.







FAT SQUIRREL.

Published Sept. 2^d 1800. by Harrison, Cluse, & Co. 47th St. Street.

FAT SQUIRREL.

BUFFON denominates this animal the Loir, or Fat Squirrel: as we have copied his figure, we have adopted the latter name, though we consider it rather as a species of the Dormouse, than of the Squirrel.

It is, in fact, the *Myoxus Glis*, of Gmelin's *Linnaeus*; though, in the twelfth edition of the *Systema Naturæ*, it was denominated *Sciurus Canus*, or the Hoary Squirrel, with a whitish belly. Klein calls it, *Sciurus Epilepticus*: Brisson, *Mus Cauda, Pilosa*; Pallas, *Mus Glis*; Gesner, *Aldrovandus*, Johnston, and Ray, *Glis*; and Pennant, in his *Synopsis*, with Buffon, the Loir, or Fat Squirrel; but, afterwards, in his *History of Quadrupeds*, the Fat Dormouse.

Buffon seems to consider the Loir, or Fat Squirrel, as the first or largest species of a distinct genus; the Lerot, or Garden Squirrel, the second, or lesser; and the Muscardin, or Dormouse, the third, and least.

“ In

“ In manners, and disposition,” says Buffon, “ the Fat Squirrel greatly resembles the common species. It lives in forests; climbs trees; and leaps from branch to branch: with less agility, indeed; because the Common Squirrel has long legs, and a body more light and meagre. They both, however, live on the same food; namely, Filberts, Chesnuts, and wild fruits. The Fat Squirrel likewise eats small birds, which it takes in their nests. It makes not a nest in the tops of trees, like the Common Squirrel; but forms a bed of Moss in the hollows of their trunks, or in the clefts of rocks, always choosing a dry situation. It abhors moisture, drinks little, and seldom descends on the ground. It differs still more from the Common Squirrel in this circumstance, that the latter is easily tamed, and the former always continues wild.

“ The Fat Squirrels couple at the end of spring; and the Females bring forth in summer, the litter generally consisting of four or five. The young grow quickly; and we are assured that they live only six years.

“ In Italy, where these animals are still eaten, the natives dig pits in the woods, and strew them with straw, moss, and beech-mast. They chuse dry places, under the shelter of rocks, and with a southern exposure. To these the Fat Squirrels resort in great numbers, and the people find them there, in a torpid state, towards the end of autumn, when they are in the best condition for eating.

“ These small animals are bold, and defend their young to the last extremity. They bite violently with their fore-teeth, which are very long, and of great strength. They neither fear the Weasel, nor small birds of prey. They escape from the Fox, because it cannot follow them to the tops of trees. Their most formidable enemies are the Martins, and the Wild Cats.

“ The Fat Squirrels are not generally diffused. They appear not in very cold climates, such as those of Lapland and Sweden; at least, they are not mentioned by the northern naturalists: the species they describe is the Dormouse, which is the least of the three.

Neither,

Neither, I imagine, are they to be met with in very warm countries, because our travellers are silent on this article. There are few or none in open countries, like Britain; they require temperate climates, abounding with wood. We find them in Spain, in France, in Greece, in Italy, in Germany, and in Switzerland, where they live in the forests on the hills: and not on the tops of high mountains, like the Marmots; which, though subject to torpor from cold, seem to delight in frost and snows."

Since Buffon wrote the above account, Dr. Pallas has informed us, that the Fat Squirrel is found in the woods of the south-west part of Russia; and the doctor also discovered these animals in the rocky caverns about the rivers Samara and Volga.

Miss Williams, in her *Sketches of the Manners of the French Republic*, just published, jocosely calls these animals Rats—"I have sent," says she, "a present of dead and disembowelled Rats for the epicurean. His friend promised him, some weeks ago, this delicious treat, and will put him to the expence of a fête

fête on the occasion, as he means to invite all his antiquarian friends immediately on the Rats arrival. Do not frown at his taste: I am told that the food is perfectly classical, and no less delicate. The animal answers the description given by Pliny and Buffon; it sleeps from autumn till summer; and steals from it's hiding place when the richest fruits are in perfection, on which alone it feeds. The Peach Trees have fattened the large herd, which have slumbered in the adjoining woods; and have this year been more plentiful than usual, on account of the mildness of the winter. I call them Rats, from their almost perfect resemblance to that animal, and the peasants gave them the same degrading appellation; but their real name is the Loir. Unlike the Romans, who encouraged the breed as an article of considerable luxury, these rustics are ignorantly industrious in destroying it. So great was the demand for this food, according to Gibbon, that it was prohibited by the Censors as an article of luxury, at the most luxurious and degenerate epocha of the Roman Republic. It appears that the animal is still held in estimation in Italy, and sent as presents to

to our modern Luculluses.. Mr. Gibbon has dignified it with the generic name of Squirrel; which it resembles in nothing but a slightly brushy tail. There is no reason, why an animal fattened with Peaches and Nectarines, should not equal the Frog; which feeds less luxuriously, and which is eaten without disgust."

We almost suspect, that Miss Williams sent her friend the Garden Squirrel, or Lerot, instead of the Loir: in which case, notwithstanding it feeds on the most delicious fruits, if we may rely on Buffon, her friend had, indeed, a present of food perhaps less palatable than even the flesh of the Rat!





GREY WATER-WAGTAIL.

Published Sept. 4, 1850 by Harrison, Chase & Co. 1778. Fleet Street

GREY WATER-WAGTAIL.

IN the Linnæan List of Edwards's Birds, the Grey Water-Wagtail is denominated *Motacilla Voarula*, by mistake, instead of *Boarula*; a name which implies it's attachment to cattle: of this we do not entirely approve, as it is not more remarkable for such an attachment than the other species. It is the *Motacilla Flava*, of Brisson; the Yellow Water-Wagtail, of Albin; the Yellow Bergeronette, of Buffon; and the Grey Wagtail or Water-Wagtail, of Edwards, Pennant, Willughby, and Latham.

Edwards observes, that "we have only three birds in England of this genus: the White, the Yellow, and the Grey Water-Wagtail. They do not differ sensibly in magnitude.

"The bill is slender, straight, of a dusky colour, and ends in a point. The top and sides of the head, upper side of the neck, and the back, are covered with ash-coloured feathers;

“ procures it's subsistence beside the margin of perennial springs, and shelters itself beneath the shelving banks of rivulets. It finds it's situation so comfortable, that it even warbles in that torpid season, unless the cold be excessive. This is a soft, whispered song, like the autumnal notes of the White Wagtail, and very different from the shrill cries which it utters while rising into the air. In the spring, it removes, to breed in the meadows ; or, sometimes, in the copses, beneath a root, and near running water. The nest is placed on the ground ; and built with dry herbs, and moss, well lined with feathers, hair, or wool, and closer interwoven than that of the White Wagtail. It contains six, seven, or eight eggs, of a dusky white, spotted with yellowish. After the young are raised, and the meadows are mowed, the parents lead them among the herds of cattle. Flies and gnats are then their food ; for, when they haunt the sides of streams, in winter, they subsist on worms, and also swallow small seeds.”

From the above account, it might seem that Buffon thought this bird not migratory—

“ However,”

“ However,” he observes, “ the greater part of them migrate; for they are more numerous among the cattle in autumn, than beside the springs and rivulets in winter. Linnæus, and Frisch,” adds Buffon, “ take no notice of this species; either because they confound it with the Spring Bergeronette, or because only one of these occurs in the north of Europe.”

The *Motacilla Javensis*, or Java Bergeronette, of Brisson, Buffon thinks, is only a variety of this bird.

1970



WATER LIZARD.

Published Sept. 1880 by Harrison, Chase & Co. 178 S. West Street.

WATER LIZARD.

THE little animal represented in the annexed print, we have copied from a figure drawn by the celebrated Edwards.

It appears to be a variety of the *Lacerta Palustris*, of the Linnæan system; which literally implies, that it is an inhabitant of fens and marshes. In England, it is commonly described under the appellation of the Water Eft, or Newt. The general length of this species of Lizard is said to be from three to four inches: and it's colour, above, a blueish brown; beneath, a deep yellow, spotted. The tail is compressed: and the fore feet have four toes, the hind feet five; all long and slender, without nails.

Of the particular Lizard figured, Edwards tells us, that "it is drawn from nature, the size of life. I believe," he adds, "it is found in England; having bought it, in spirits, at an auction of the late Mrs. Kennon's curiosities."

This,

This, alone, it may be remarked, is not the best reason possible, though given by our old friend Edwards, why the animal must necessarily be a native of England. We do not, however, doubt the fact; we object only to the reasoning.

“ The upper part,” Edwards says, “ is brown; the lower, more of a copper colour, spotted with dusky spots all over the body and limbs. The fore feet have each of them four toes, and the hinder feet have each five; which is quite contrary to the Crocodile—which is also a Water Lizard—who has five toes on each foot forwards, and only four on each of it’s hinder feet. It has a single fin, extending from the head, along the back, to the tip of the tail; and another, reaching from the vent, to the tip of the tail, on the under side.”

Dr. Goldsmith, treating of the Lizards in general, asserts that “ they are all amphibious; or, at least, are found capable of subsisting in either element, when placed there. If,” proceeds the Doctor, “ those taken on land are
put

put into water, they continue there in seeming health; and, on the contrary, those taken from the water, will live on land. In water, however, they exhibit a greater variety in their appearance: and, what is equally wonderful with the rest of their history, during the whole spring and summer, this Water Lizard changes it's skin every fourth or fifth day; and, during the winter, every fifteen days! This operation they perform, by means of the mouth and the claws; and it seems a work of no small difficulty and pain. The cast skins are frequently seen floating on the surface of the water: they are sometimes seen, also, with a part of their old skin still sticking to one of their limbs, which they have not been able to get rid of; and thus, like a man with a boot half-drawn, in some measure crippled in their own spoils. This, also, often corrupts, and the leg drops off: but the animal does not seem to feel the want of it; for the loss of a limb, to all the Lizard kind, is but a trifling calamity. They can live several hours, even after the loss of their head; and for some time, under dissection, all the parts of this animal seem to retain life: but the tail is the part that longest
rain

retains it's motion. Salt seems to be much more efficacious, in destroying these animals, than the knife: for, on being sprinkled with it, the whole body emits a viscous liquor; and the Lizard dies, in three minutes, in great agonies."



SPOTTED OPOSSUM.

Published Sept. 20, 1890, by Harrison, Plac. & Co. N.Y.

SPOTTED OPOSSUM.

THE animal represented in the annexed print is a newly discovered species of the Opossum, for a knowledge of which we are indebted to the settlement in New South Wales.

It is the *Didelphis Viverrina*, or Viverrine Opossum, of systematic naturalists: but its native name, appears to be the *Tapoa Tafa*, or *Tapha*; and, under that appellation, it was originally figured by Mr. White, in his celebrated Journal.

Of the Viverrine Opossum, there seems to be two varieties: one of which is the Black and White Spotted Opossum here figured; the other is said to be merely the same animal without spots, and of a different colour. Some naturalists have denominated the former, the Black Opossum Spotted with White; and others, whom we have followed, simply the Spotted Opossum. Yet, it must be confessed, if the two kinds are truly the same species, it should

should seem necessary to call the first the Viverrine Opossum only, and the latter the Spotted Viverrine Opossum: particularly, as the Opossums appear to be a very numerous tribe.

The general size of this species of the Opossum is said to be that of the Stoat; which is about ten inches long, from the tip of the nose to the insertion of the tail: the tail is of itself about eight inches in length.

In the account of Governor Phillip's Voyage to Botany Bay, published by Stockdale, where this animal is called the Spotted Opossum, it is said to measure about fifteen inches from the nose to the tail; and the tail itself to be about ten: but the description given by Mr. Hunter, in Mr. White's Journal, represents it to be about the size of a Rat. It is easy to suppose, that these differences may have arisen, from the respective parties having examined specimens of different ages.

The general colour of the animal is a deep, glossy black; the body, and outsides of the limbs,

limbs, being all over spotted with large patches of white, in no very regular form.

Mr. Hunter, who considers the Brown Verrine Opossum to be merely a variety of this Black and White Spotted species, differing only in colour, has thus minutely described it.

“ This animal,” says he, “ is of the size of a Rat; and has very much the appearance of the Martin Cat, but is hardly so long in the body in proportion to it's size.

“ The head is flat forwards, and broad from side to side; especially, between the eyes and ears. The nose is peaked, and projecting beyond the teeth; which makes the upper jaw appear to be considerably longer than the lower. The eyes are pretty large. The ears are broad; especially, at their base: not becoming regularly narrower to a point, nor with a very smooth edge; and having a small process on the concave, or inner surface, near the base. It has long whiskers from the sides of the cheeks, which begin forwards near the nose, by small and short hairs, and become longer

longer and stronger as they approach the eyes. It has very much the air of a Rat, to which it is similar in colour; but, near the setting on of the tail, it is of a lighter brown, forming a broad ring round it. The fore feet are shorter than the hind, but much in the same proportion as those of the Rat; the hind feet are more flexible. There are five toes on the fore feet, the middle ones the largest; falling off on each side, nearly equally, but the fore or inner toe is rather shortest: they are thin, from side to side. The nails are pretty broad laterally, and thin at their base; not very long, but sharp. The animal walks on it's whole palm, on which there is no hair. The hind feet are pretty long, and have five toes: that which answers to our great toe is very short, and has no nail; the next is the longest in the whole, falling gradually off to the outer toe. The shape of the hind toes is the same as in the fore feet, as are likewise the nails. It walks nearly on the whole foot. The tail is covered with long hair, but not all of the same colour.

“ The teeth of this creature are different from those of any other animal yet known.
The

The mouth is full of teeth. The lower jaw is narrow, in comparison with the upper, more especially backwards; which allows of much broader grinders in this jaw than in the lower, and which occasion the grinders in the upper jaw to project considerably over those in the lower. In the middle, the cuspidati oppose one another; the upper piercers, or holders, go behind those of the lower: the second class of incisors, in the lower jaw, over-top those of the upper; while the two first in the lower go within, or behind, those of the upper. In the upper jaw, before the holders, there are four teeth on each side; three of which are pointed, the point standing on the inner surface: and the two in front are longer, stand more obliquely forwards, and appear to be appropriated for a particular use. The holders are a little way behind the last fore teeth, to allow those of the lower jaw to come between; they are pretty long: the cuspidati, on each side, become longer and larger towards the grinders; they are points, or cones, placed on a broad base.

“ There are four grinders on each side; the
middle

middle two the largest, the last the least: their base is a triangle of the scalenus kind; or having one angle obtuse, and two acute. Their base is composed of two surfaces, an inner and an outer, divided by processes or points: it is the inner, that the grinders of the lower jaw oppose, when the mouth is regularly shut. The lower jaw has three fore teeth, or incisors, on each side: the first considerably the largest, projecting obliquely forwards; the other two of the same kind, but smaller; the last the smallest.

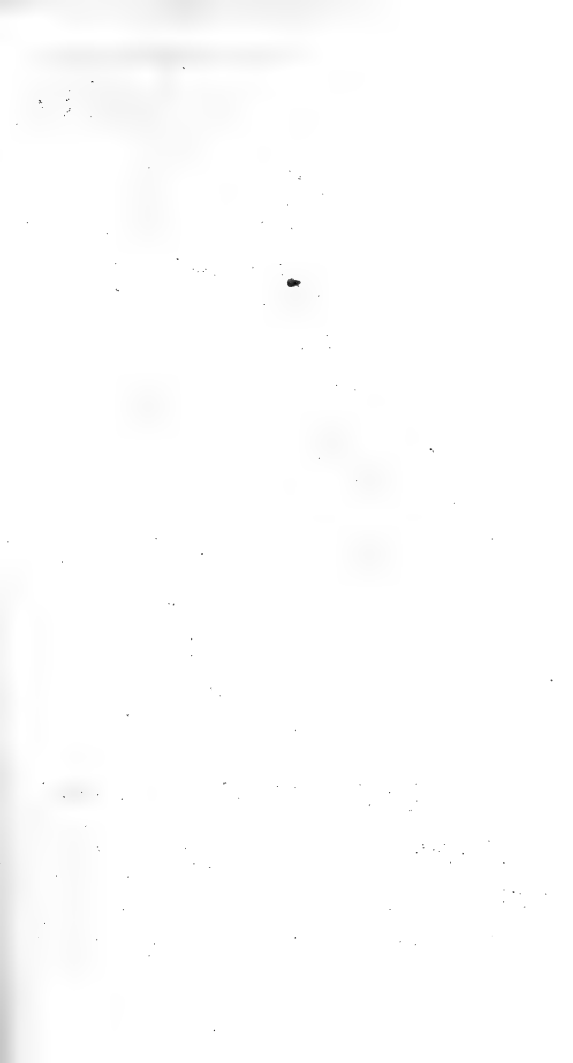
“ The holder in this jaw is not so large as in the upper jaw, and close to the incisors. There are three cuspidati; the middle one the largest, the last the least: these are cones, standing on their base; but not on the middle, rather on the exterior side. There are four grinders; the two middle ones the largest, and rather quadrangular; each of which has a high point, or cone, on the outer edge; with a smaller, and three more diminutive, on the inner edge.

“ It is impossible to say, critically, what the
various

various forms of these teeth are adapted for, from the general principles of teeth. In the front, we have what may divide and tear off—behind those, there are holders or destroyers—behind the latter, such as will assist in mashing; as the grinders of the Lion, and other carnivorous animals—and, last of all, grinders to divide parts into smaller portions; as in the gramenivorous tribes: the articulation of the jaw admits of all those motions.”

These animals, which seem, as before observed, except in colour, exactly the same, are remarkable for their slender form; which circumstance, added to the pointed visage, and long brushy tail, gives them, at first view, rather the appearance of the Weasel than of the Opossum race.







LONG TAILED SPARROW.

LONG-TAILED SPARROW.

WE have copied, from Edwards, the figure of this curious bird, which he calls the Long-Tailed Sparrow. It is the *Emberiza Principalis*, of Linnæus; the *Vidua Angolensis*, or Angola Widow, of Brisson; the *Veuve Mouchetée*, or Spotted Widow, of Buffon; and the Variegated Bunting, of Latham. As the length of the tail certainly forms it's chief peculiarity, we cannot approve of any appellation which does not allude to that circumstance.

The history and description which Edwards gives of this singular bird is as follows—

“ The Long-Tailed-Sparrow,” says he, “ has the bill of a bright red colour, and shorter than that of a Common Sparrow. The top of the head, hinder part of the neck, back, rump, and wings, are of a bright brown, inclining to orange; the middle part of the feathers is black: the breast is of the same colour;

colour ; but paler, and without black spots down it's middle. The sides of the head, the lesser covert-feathers of the wings, the belly, thighs, and covert-feathers under the tail, are white. The shorter feathers of the tail are dusky ; with a little brown on their outer webs, and white spots on their inner webs. Over these feathers there fall four other feathers, of a very great length in proportion to the size of the bird ; the two middle ones are about an inch longer than the two side ones : these four long feathers are of a deep black colour. The legs and feet are of a flesh-colour. The long feathers of the tail grow again very soon after they have moulted ; which is contrary to those of the Long-Tailed Finch, that bird being half a year, or more, after moulting, without the long feathers of it's tail."

Edwards also informs us, that this bird was, in 1751, the property of the obliging Mrs. Clayton, of Flower, in Surry : a lady very curious in birds ; who kindly invited him, to her house in London, where this and many other rare exotic birds were kept alive in cages, that he might make drawings of them. It

was brought from Lisbon, and supposed to be a native of either Angola or Brasil; the ship, by which it was carried to Lisbon, in the course of it's voyages, trading to both those places. Petiver, Willughby, and other writers of natural history, Edwards adds, have given figures much like this long-tailed bird; but their descriptions are so wide, that he believes it to be a bird not before described. He supposes, by the form of the bill, that the bird is one of those which are called hard-billed birds, being thus enabled to crack many sorts of seeds and grain.

The name given to this bird, by Brisson, should seem to ascertain it's being a native of Angola. Of this Edwards was uncertain; and Buffon gives us no information as to the place where it is found. His account, indeed, seems chiefly compiled from that of Edwards: referring the bird, however, to what he denominates the Widows; in which he also places the Long-Tailed Finch of Edwards, though he acknowledges that they differ with regard to the growth of the tail, as stated by the latter.

We shall subjoin Buffon's entire account of his Speckled Widow, in proof of what we have advanced, though it can afford no additional information.

“ All the upper part is speckled with black, on an orange ground. The quills of the wing, and it's great coverts, are black, edged with orange. The breast is of a lighter orange, without speckles. The small coverts of the wing are white; and form a broad transverse bar of that colour, which predominates in all the lower part of the body. The bill is of a lively red: the legs are flesh-coloured.

“ The four long feathers are of a deep black: they constitute no part of the true tail, as might be supposed; but form a sort of false tail, which leans on the first. These long feathers are cast in moulting, but quickly replaced; which is common in most birds, though rather unusual in the Widows. When these feathers have acquired their full length, the two middle ones project five inches and a half beyond the lower tail, and the two others
an

an inch less. The quills of the lower or true tail are of a dull brown; the side ones edged exteriorly with a lighter colour, and marked within with a white spot.

“ This bird is of the size of the Dominican Widow: it's bill is of a bright red, shorter than that of the Sparrow; and the legs are flesh-coloured.”

In this short account, the intelligent reader will instantly perceive, that Buffon has twice described the legs and the bill, and that he adds nothing essential to the history or description of the bird.



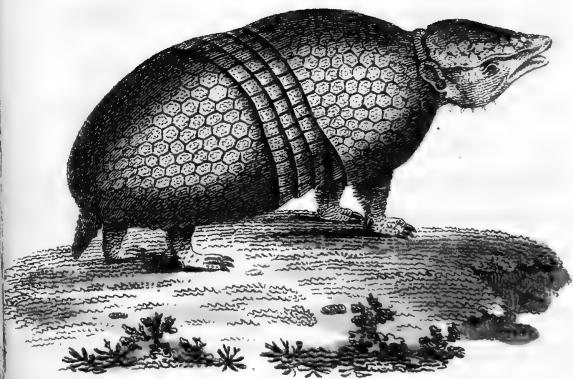


ELEPHANT DUNG BEETLE.

ELEPHANT-DUNG BEETLE.

THIS beautiful Beetle is considerably larger than we have been enabled to represent it in the figure annexed. From the anus to the extremity of the horns, it measures four inches and a half in length; and the legs are three inches and a half long. The entire back, or rather the wing-cases which cover it, as well as the thorax and head, are of a fine light brown, beautifully marked with black; the whole cloathed with down, resembling plush or velvet. The legs are of a rich black, highly polished; and edged with fine silken hairs of a golden hue.

The Elephant-Dung Beetle, which was first figured by Mr. Drury, in his celebrated collection of Exotic Insects, is a native of Africa. The original was found, a few years since, near Sierra Leone, in the dung of an Elephant; which gave rise to it's present name of distinction. Perhaps, however, it may not always be met with in that situation.



THREE-BANDED ARMADILLO.

Published Sept. 10. 1800 by Harrison, Chase & Co. 478. Fleet Street.

THREE-BANDED ARMADILLO.

THAT this animal is one of the most beautiful species of the Armadillo, cannot be disputed. It is the *Dasyus Tricinctus*, of Linnaeus; the Armadillo, or Another Kind of Tatu, of Clusius; the *Cataphractus Tricinctus*, of Brisson; the Tatu, or Armadillo, of Seba, and of Piso; the Tatu-Apara of Marcgrave; and the Three-Banded Armadillo, of Buffon, Pennant, and other naturalists.

Buffon tells us, that Clusius is the first author who describes this animal: and observes that, though his description was taken from a drawing only, it is easy to perceive, by the remarkable characters of the three moveable bands on the back, and a short tail, it is the same species of which Marcgrave has given a good description, under the name Tatu-Apara.

“The head,” says Buffon, “is oblong, and almost pyramidal; the eyes are small; the ears are short and rounded: and the top of the head is covered with a helmet consisting of a
single

single piece. There are, on all the feet, five toes each: the two middle claws of the fore feet are very large; the two lateral ones smaller; and the fifth, or exterior, is the least. The claws of the hind feet are shorter, and more equal. The tail, which exceeds not two inches in length, is wholly covered with a shell or crust. The body is about a foot long; and, at the broadest part, about eight inches across. The back, or cuirass, is divided into four joints, and composed of three transverse moveable bands, by which the animal is enabled to bend it's body, and to roll itself up like a ball. The skin which forms the joints is very flexible. The shields which cover the shoulders and rump consist of pentangular pieces, very equally ranged. The three moveable bands between the two shields are composed of square or oblong pieces; and, on each piece, there are a number of lenticular scales, of a yellowish white colour. Marcgrave adds that, when the creature lies down to sleep, or when it is touched by any person, it gathers it's feet together, puts it's head below it's belly, and makes the whole body so perfectly round, that it has more the appearance of a sea-shell, than
of

of a land animal. This contraction is effected by means of two large muscles on the sides of the body; and it is with difficulty that the strongest man can force an extension with his hands. Piso, and Ray, have added nothing to Marcgrave's description. But it is singular that Seba, who has given us a figure and description nearly the same with those of Marcgrave, should not only omit to mention this author, but confidently assert "that this animal is unknown to the naturalist; that it is found in the most remote countries of the East Indies;" &c. while, in fact, this Brazilian Armadillo is excellently described by Marcgrave, and the species is as common as any other—not, indeed, in the East Indies; but in America, where it is very frequently seen. The only real difference between the description of Seba, and that of Marcgrave, is, that the latter gives the animal five toes to each foot, and the former only four. One of them must be wrong; for they both, evidently describe the same animal.

"Fabius Columna," adds Buffon, "has described and given figures of the dried crust
of

of an Armadillo, contracted in the form of a Ball, which appear to have had Four moveable Bands: but, as this author was totally ignorant of the animal whose skin or shell he describes—as he knew not the very name of the Armadillo, though mentioned by Belon more than fifty years before, but gave it the compound appellation of *Cheloniscus*—besides, as he acknowledges, that the crust he describes had been pasted together, and that some pieces were wanting—we have no proper authority to pronounce, as our modern nomenclators have done, that an Armadillo with Four moveable Bands, has an existence in nature; especially, as no notices have been communicated, by any other naturalist, concerning this animal, since the imperfect and suspicious account given by Fabius Columna in the year 1606. If it did exist, “concludes Buffon, “it would certainly have found it’s way into some of our cabinets, or been observed by travellers.”

Buffon has, perhaps, been too hasty in condemning “the modern nomenclators,”—by which he chiefly means Linnæus—on this occasion: for, as Molina, in his Natural History of
of

of Chili, mentions a Four-Banded Armadillo, in addition to the disputed authority of Columna's dried specimen, the animadversions of the great French naturalist do not fairly apply to the illustrious Swede.

We may also observe, that Buffon has evidently formed his description of our Three-Banded Armadillo without any actual view of the animal; though, on the whole, it is tolerably correct. However, he did not know, whether the animal had four or five toes on each foot; has erroneously described their size and proportions; and even seems to be unacquainted with the peculiar character of this animal's armour, which is in fact curiously studded, or tuberculated, on the surface. The claws, in truth, are smaller than in most of the other species, as faithfully represented by the figure annexed.





TROPICK BIRD.

THE Tropick Bird is a genus, consisting of three species; or rather, perhaps, two species, and a variety of the first. The Phaëton Æthereus, and it's variety, form the first species in the Linnæan system: and the second is the Phaëton Phænicurus, of Linnæus and Gmelin; the Red-Shafted Tropick Bird, of Buffon; and the Red-Tailed Tropick Bird, of Latham. With respect to the first species, and it's variety, it is to be observed, that both are, in the Linnæan system, called by the same name, Phaëton Æthereus. Buffon, however, denominates the former the Great Tropick Bird; and the latter, or variety, the Little Tropick Bird. This last, Brisson names *Lepturus Candidus*; and Brown, *Alcyon Media Alba*.

Edwards, whose figure we have adopted, notices only the larger species; which is the *Avis Tropicorum*, or Tropick Bird, of Ray, Willughby, and himself; and the *Plancus Tropicus*, of Klein. The generical appellation of Buffon, is *L'Oiseau du Tropique*; or, *le Paille-en-Queue*: which latter, from it's grossness, probably originated with the Dutch, who

who name it Pylstaart, having exactly the same vulgar signification; yet has it been adopted by the grave Spaniards, in their Rabo-de-Junco, as well as by the polite French, in their Paille-en-Cul, or Fetu-en-Cul. This last, however, is somewhat purified by Buffon's Paille-en-Queue, or Straw-in-Tail; and sometimes, in the French language, it is called Queue de Fleche, or Arrow-Tail.

The description given by Edwards, to accompany his figure, is as follows—"This bird appears the bigness of a Pigcon; the wing, when closed, is above ten inches long. The longest feather in the tail was full twenty-three inches and a half long, which is many inches more than any other natural historian has described it to be. In another bird, I found the longest feather only sixteen inches long. The bill is red; and bigger, in proportion, than that of the Arctick Bird. The head, body, wings, and tail, both above and beneath, are white: excepting the following spots; viz. a very remarkable spot round each eye; the six outermost quills, on each side, are black, with white tips, a large black spot beginning

ginning in the lesser coverts of each wing, and taking in two or three of the quills next the body; a lesser black spot on each shoulder; beside some small spots, or mixture, in the white feathers on the lower belly. The tail has twelve feathers; short on the outsides, and increasing gradually to the two middle ones, which are very narrow, and shoot out nearly twenty inches beyond the rest. The shafts of the tail-feathers are black; as are those of the covert-feathers of the wings, which fall over the black prime quills. It has small, and weak, legs and feet, in proportion to it's size; with four toes on a foot, all webbed together, and a lateral fin on the outside of the outermost toe. The legs, and beginning of the toes, are red; the webs, and ends of the toes, black, as are the claws. I have seen another of these birds, spotted with a number of small black spots, in the place of the larger beds of black described in the above. The legs and bill appear yellowish in the dried bird; but, I am informed, they are red in the living birds."

To this, Edwards merely adds, that the bird which he figured was in the possession of his
good

good friend Dr. Fothergill; that it was finely preserved; and that, though the Tropick Bird had often been described, he believes that he has made some amendments.

Buffon's description of this bird is very short—"The Great Tropick Bird," says he, "exceeds the bulk of a large Dove-House Pigeon. It's shafts are nearly two feet long. All it's plumage is white: with little broken black lines above the back; and a black streak, in form of a horse-shoe, inclosing the eye at the inner corners. The bill, and the feet, are red. It is found in the island of Rodrigue, in that of Ascension, and at Cayenne; and seems the largest of the genus. It sometimes roves immense distances beyond the Tropicks. Linnæus mentions the latitude of forty-seven degrees and a half as the limit; and," adds Buffon, "I myself saw one nearly in that parallel, between the Bank of Newfoundland and the Channel. Linnæus adds, that the Tropick Bird feeds on Mackarels, Dolphins, and Sharks: I suppose, he means the dead carcases that sometimes float on the surface."

The Little Tropick Bird of Buffon, is described

scribed as scarcely equal in size to a small Pigeon; but has the horse-shoe about the eye, and is in general appearance of the plumage much the same as the larger species. It utters, at intervals, a small cry—"Chiric! Chiric!" makes it's nest in the holes of craggy rocks; and, according to Father Feuillée, lays two blueish eggs, rather larger than those of a Pigeon.

"On comparing several individuals of this second kind," says Buffon, "we remarked reddish or fulvous tints on the white ground of the plumage. This variation, we presume, proceeds from the tender age: and, to the same cause, we would attribute the fulvous cast described by Brisson, in his *Lepturus Fulvus*; especially, as he represents that bird as rather smaller than his white one. We also perceived considerable diversity in the bulk of these birds. Many travellers have assured us, that the young ones are not pure white; but spotted, or stained, with brown or blackish. They differ, also, because their bills and feet, instead of being red, are pale blue. We must, however, observe that, though Catesby affirms
in

in general, that these birds have their bill and legs red; this is not invariably true, except of the Great, and the Red-Shafted species: for, in this smaller species, which is the most common in the Isle of France, the bill is yellowish, like horn, and the legs are black.

Of the beautiful Red-Shafted Tropick Bird, we may hereafter be enabled to give an original figure and description. In the mean time, we shall present our readers with what is known relative to Tropick Birds in general.

Buffon opens his history of these birds with considerable animation. “ We have seen,” says he, “ birds travel from north to south; with boundless course, traversing all the climates of the globe: others we shall view, confined to the polar regions; the last children of expiring Nature, invaded by the horrors of eternal ice! The present, on the contrary, seems to attend the car of the sun, under the burning Zone, defined by the Tropicks; flying, perpetually, amid the tepid Zephyrs, without straying beyond the verge of the ecliptick, it informs the navigator of his approach to the flaming barriers of the solar track. Hence, it has been called

called the Tropick Bird, because it resides within the limits of the torrid Zone: while Linnæus, probably, from it's seeming attendance on the sun, has given it the poetical appellation of Phaëton Æthereus."

The Tropick Birds rove, in their powerful and rapid flights, many hundred leagues over the open sea; and, when fatigued, their broad palmated feet enable them to rest on the surface of the water, where Labat even ventures to assert that they actually sleep!

The shaft feathers are shed annually; and the inhabitants of Otaheite, and the neighbouring islands, gather them in the woods, where the birds repose at night, to weave into tufts and chaplets for their warriors. The Caribs thrust these feathers through the septum of the nose, by way of ornament!

The Tropick Bird often alights, exhausted, on the mast of a ship, and suffers itself to be taken with the hand. Leguat, however, describes a curious contest with these birds. "They annoyed us," says he, "in a singular manner: they surprized us behind, and snatched the

the caps from our heads; and these attacks were so frequent and so troublesome, that we were obliged to hold sticks constantly in our hands for defence. We prevented them sometimes, when we saw before us their shadow the moment they were about to make their aim. We could never understand what use our caps could be to them, or what they did with those which they had carried off."

The Viscount de Querhoënt, who kept a young Tropick Bird for a long time, could never make it swallow food, without opening it's bill for that purpose. He observes, that these birds are heavy and stupid in the cage; that, from the shortness of the legs, all their motions are constrained; and that his bird slept almost the whole day. Buffon's remarks — "We may readily suppose, that a bird whose flight is so free, so lofty, and so vast, cannot be reconciled to captivity."

He seems to think that the Tropick Birds, though divided into two or three kinds, are only varieties, nearly allied to the common stock, and not specifically different.



DIGITATED CAROLINEA.

Published Sept. 20. 1860. by Harrison, Plummer & Co. No. 78. Astor Street.

DIGITATED CAROLINEA.

THIS magnificent plant is a native of Mexico, Surinam, and Guiana. It is a large tree of the Monadelphia Poliandria class; and ranking in the natural order of Columniferae. It is called, by the French, Cacao Sauvage, or the Wild Cocoa-Tree. Jussieu names it Malvaceæ.

Linnæus makes a genus of these plants, consisting of two species, and comprehended under the generical appellation of *Carolina*. This name he bestowed on these trees in honour of Sophia Carolina, Marchioness of Baden, who was an illustrious patroness of the Botanical science.

The first species he calls *Carolina* Princeps; and the second, *Carolina* Insignis.

The former, which is represented in our annexed figure, is the Digitated *Carolina* of the Hortus Kewensis; and has sometimes been called the *Pachira Aquatica*: the latter, a native of Tobago and Vera Cruz, is named by Hernandez, the *Xiloxochitl* Flora Capillaceo; and, by some others, *Bombax Grandiflorum*.

The leaves of the Digitated Carolina are alternate, petioled, and digitate; the leaflets, which are three, or five, are broad-lanceolate, subpetioled, and quite entire; and there are two short caducous stipules. The flowers, which are solitary, axillary, and sessile, are very large and beautiful: the petals are yellow, the filaments red, and the anthers purple. The fruit has the appearance of that of the Cocoa Nut, or of Cucumber: it is torulose and obovate; with seeds like Almonds, the cotyledons plaited. These are eatable; but, when taken raw, in any quantity, they are experienced to be very flatulent.

This plant was first introduced by Mr. Alexander Anderson, in the year 1787. It may be propagated by seeds, or by cuttings, in a light loamy soil, plunged in the bark-stove, and moderately watered during the summer season, but sparingly in winter. In it's native state, it chiefly grows in such moist or marshy situations as are liable to be overflowed by the spray of the sea.





CARE CAT.

Published Sept. 25. 1800. by Harrison, Ainslie & Co. 47. Fleet Street.

CAPE CAT.

THE Cape Cat, as this beautiful animal is usually called, is the *Felis Capensis*, or Tiger-Cat of the Cape of Good Hope, according to the Linnæan system. Neither Linnæus, nor Buffon, however, seem to have at all noticed this species, though mentioned by two preceding writers. It is the Tiger-Bosch-Katten, of Kolben; and the 'Nsussi, of Labat: but, perhaps, they had not described it with sufficient accuracy, for the naturalist decidedly to pronounce it a distinct species; which was first done, from the living animal, by the celebrated Dr. John Reinhold Forster, in the seventy-first volume of the Philosophical Transactions.

This communication was read before the Royal Society, on the 9th of November 1780; and, as the account of this animal is introduced by some interesting observations, we shall extract the paper verbatim.

“ Few tribes of quadrupeds have, in Africa,
more

more representatives of their different species than that of the Cat. The genus of Antelopes may, perhaps, be excepted: since, to my knowledge, about twenty different Gazelles and Antelopes are to be met with in Africa; but no more than about eight or nine of the Cat-tribe have hitherto been discovered on that continent. However, I know about twenty-one different species of this great class; and, I suppose, they by no means exhaust this numerous tribe.

“ The greater and more numerous the different genera of animals are, the more difficult it must be, to the natural historian, properly to arrange the whole of such an extensive division of animals; especially, if they are not equally well known. To form new genera, in order to dispose and arrange them under, is a remedy which increases the evil instead of curing it. The best method, therefore, which can be devised, is to make great divisions in each genus, comprehending those species which, on account of some common relation, or character, have a greater affinity to one another. The genus of Cat, to which the animal

animal belongs we are going to speak of more at large, offers three very easy and natural sub-divisions. The first, comprehends animals related to the Cat-tribe, with long hair, or manes, on their necks—secondly, such as have remarkable long tails, without any marks of a mane on their necks—lastly, such as have a brush of hair on the tips of their ears, and shorter tails than the second subdivision. The first might be called, in Latin, *Feles Jubatæ*; the second subdivision, should be named *Ælures*; and the third and last, *Lynces*. In the first subdivision, the Lion; and the Hunting Leopard, or Indian Chittah; belong. The second subdivision, consists of the Tiger; the Panther; the Leopard; the Ounce; the Puma; the Jaguarett; the Jaguar; the Ocelot; the Ginge, of Congo; the Marakaya; the Tiger-Cat, of the Cape, or the 'Nsussi of Congo; the Thibetan Tiger-Cat, which I saw at Petersburg; the Common Bush-Cat, of the Cape; and, lastly, the Wild Cat, and it's Domestic varieties. To the third division belong, the Lynx; the Caracal; the Serval: the Bay Lynx; and the Ghaus, of Professor Guldenstedt.

“ Since

“ Since it is quite foreign to my purpose, to speak of those species which are known already to the naturalist, I confine myself to that species only which hitherto has been imperfectly known to naturalists.

“ The first notice we had of the Cape Cat is, in my opinion, to be met with in Labat's *Relation Historique de l'Ethiopie Occidentale*, Tom. i. p. 177, taken, as is supposed, from Father Carazzi. Labat mentions, there, the 'Nsussi, a kind of Wild Cat of the size of a Dog, with a coat as much striped and varied as that of a Tiger. It's appearance bespeaks cruelty, and it's eyes fierceness; but it is cowardly, and gets it's prey only by cunning and insidious arts. All the characters are perfectly applicable to the Cape Cat; and, it seems, the animal is found in all parts of Africa, from Congo to the Cape of Good Hope, in an extent of country of about eleven degrees of latitude. Kolben, in his *Present State of the Cape of Good Hope*, Vol. ii. p. 127, of the English edition, speaks of a Tiger-Bush-Cat, which he describes as the largest of all the Wild Cats of the Cape countries, and is spotted
somethin 65

something like a Tiger. A skin of this animal was seen by Mr. Pennant, in a Furrier's shop in London, who thought it came from the Cape of Good Hope. From this skin Mr. Pennant gave the first description which could be of any utility to a natural historian. All the other authors mention this animal in a vague manner. When I and my son touched the second time at the Cape of Good Hope, in the year 1775, an animal of this species was offered me to purchase; but I refused buying it, because it had a broken leg, which made me apprehensive of losing it by death during the passage from the Cape to London. It was very gentle, and tame. It was brought in a basket to my apartment, where I kept it above four and twenty hours: which gave me the opportunity of describing it, and of observing it's manners and œconomy; as it did to my son, that of making a very accurate drawing of it.

“ After a most-minute examination, I found it's manners and œconomy perfectly analogous to those of our Domestic Cats. It eat fresh raw meat, and was very much attached to it's feeders and benefactors. Though it had broken
it's

it's fore-leg by accident, it nevertheless was very easy. After it had several times been fed by me, it soon followed me like a tame favourite Cat. It liked to be stroked and caressed: it rubbed it's head and back always against the person's cloaths who fed it, and desired to be made much of. It purred; as our Domestic Cats do, when they are pleased. It had been taken, when quite young, in the woods, and was not above eight or nine months old: I can, however, positively aver, having seen many skins of full-grown Tiger-Cats, that it had already very nearly, if not quite, attained it's full growth. I was told, that the Tiger-Cats live in mountainous and woody tracts; and that, in their wild state, they are very great destroyers of Hares, Rabbits, Jerboas, young Antelopes, Lambkins, and of all the feathered tribe."

It is to be regretted, that Dr. Forster did not purchase this animal; for the neglect of which, we cannot think that he has given a sufficient reason. If it could follow him, with it's leg broke, the accident was not very likely to endanger it's life; and, had it lived, we
might

might have possessed more certainty as to the true size of these animals.

The minute scientific description of the animal, subjoined to this paper in the Philosophical Transactions, states it to be only eighteen inches long; while that described, by Pennant, from a skin acknowledged by Dr. Forster to belong to the same species, was very nearly three feet in length from the nose to the tail. There is, too, somewhat like inconsistency, in Dr. Forster's admitting the 'Nsussi of Labat, stated to be the size of a Dog; and the Tiger-Bush-Cat of Kolben, mentioned as the largest of all the Wild Cats of the Cape countries; to be both of them the same animal: yet, afterwards, to "positively aver," that the young Cat of eight or nine months old, had nearly, if not quite, attained it's full growth, though only eighteen inches long. We have great respect for Dr. Forster's ability, but cannot be satisfied with such reasoning: and, though we think his general remarks ingenious and judicious, on the whole, had we leisure to pursue the enquiry, and if it were on this occasion necessary, some objections might be opposed to the

the

the particulars of his proposed classification of the Cat genera.

The description of the skin of the full-grown animal, as given by Mr. Pennant, is comprised in a very narrow compass. "It has," he says, "short hair, of a bright ferruginous colour. The face is marked with black stripes, tending downwards: and, from the hind part of the head, to the tail, the back is marked with oblong stripes of black; the sides, with very numerous small and round spots of black. The belly is white. The tail, which is long, is of a bright tawny colour, annulated with black. The ears are long, narrow, pointed, and very erect. The length, from the nose to the tail, is nearly three feet."

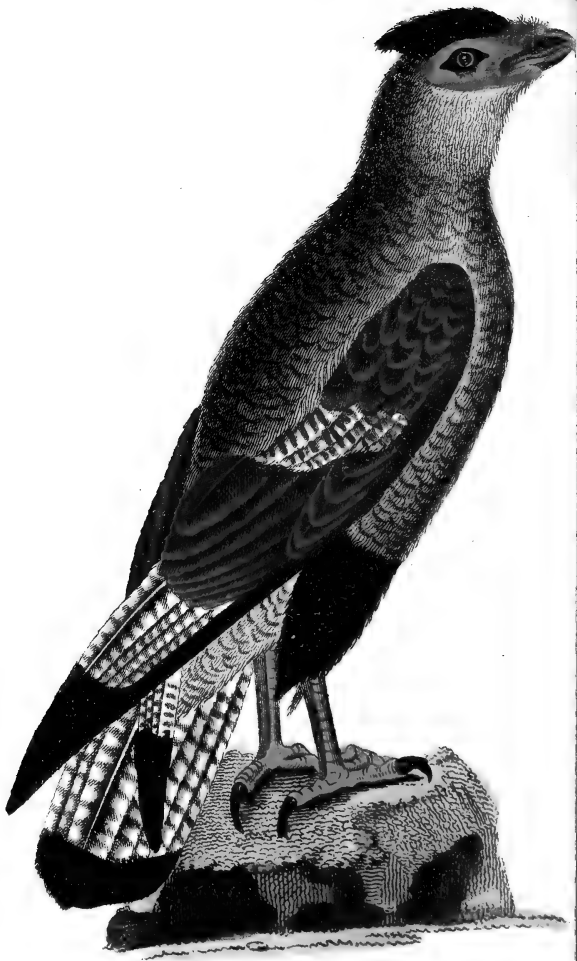
To account for the difference between the size of the skin which he describes, and that of the animal examined by Dr. Forster, Pennant politely suggests, "mine might have been from a distended skin, or his from a young animal." We are friends to politeness, when not carried too far; but we are greater friends to truth, of which there can be no such danger.

ger. This politeness of Mr. Pennant is mere trifling. He knew perfectly well, that Dr. Forster's account was incongruous; and he should have openly said so, with as much civility as he pleased. The Doctor deserved not to be affronted; but he ought to have been told of his error.

It is by no means for the sake of finding fault with any of our intelligent naturalists, to whom every body is indebted, and ourselves are largely so, that we add our objection to the name of the Cape Cat; which, we have, however, adopted. Local appellations should never be given to animals which are found in numbers equally great at different and very remote parts of the world: as, in the present instance, the *Felis Capensis*, or Cape Cat, from the neighbourhood of the Cape of Good Hope, to as high north as Congo!







PLAINTIVE EAGLE.

Published Sept. 25, 1800, by Harrison, Church & Co. 178, Fleet Street.

PLAINTIVE EAGLE.

THE annexed figure of this elegant bird, is drawn from a fine specimen brought to England by the late Dr. Forster.

It is a native of the Antarctic regions; and was found, by Capt. Cook, at Terra del Fuego: but, though it is generally called the Plaintive Eagle, and is of a stout aquiline form, naturalists are by no means agreed that it is in fact an Eagle. Gmelin, it is true, considers it as an Eagle; and, in his edition of the *Systema Naturæ* of Linnæus, denominates it the *Falco Plancus*. Latham, too, in his *Synopsis*, at first, called it the Plaintive Eagle; but, afterwards, in his *Index Ornithologicus*, &c. the *Vultur Plancus*, or Plaintive Vulture. It appears to us, as it has done to some respectable naturalists, that this bird is rather of an intermediate race, between the Vulture and the Eagle, than either of the two; and, therefore, that it may be classed among the *Gypaeti*, or Bastard Eagles, of which there are several species.

cies. They hold, as this does, both in appearance and manners, a middle rank, between the Vultures and the Eagles: the head is not so naked as in the Vultures, and the bill is less hooked than that of the Eagles. Like the latter, they destroy living animals frequently, like the former, devour carcases. Our Plaintive Eagle, therefore, seems to be, in truth, the *Falco Gypaetus Plancus*, or Plaintive Gypetard-Eagle, of the Linnæan System. It is about two feet and a half long. The Bill is black; and the cere, which extends almost to the point, as well as the space round the orbits, the naked sides of the head, or straps, with the legs and feet, are orange-coloured, or yellow. The wings are brown; the tip of the tail, and the claws, are black.

It's specific character is, that the hind part of the head is crested; the sides of the head, and the neck, are naked; that the breast, and the upper parts of the body, are barred with brown and white; that the under parts of the body are white; and, that the tail is also white, but marked with tranverse black bands.





SMOOTH HIBISCUS

Published Sept. 25th 1866. by Harrison, Clark & Co. N.Y. & Co. N.Y.

SMOOTH HIBISCUS.

THE genus *Hibiscus*, is named from the Greek of Dioscorides, *Ιβισκος*; but the original derivation of this word does not appear to be known. It is in the sixth order of the sixteenth class of Linnæus's *Monadelphia Polyandria*; and in the natural order of the *Columniferæ*, or *Malvaceæ* of Jussieu.

The species of this genus are extremely numerous; no less than forty-five species are described in Professor Martyn's valuable edition of Miller's *Gardener's Dictionary*. Much the greater part of this genus are natives of either the East or the West Indies; and they are, also, mostly perennials. Many of them have shrubby stalks, but some are only herbaceous. The leaves are alternate, and commonly of a soft texture: in some of the species they are glandulous beneath, especially on the midrib. The flowers are of the Mallow kind; axillary, and terminating. The bark, in several of the species, is capable of being drawn

drawn into threads, and manufactured for pack-thread and ropes. The capsule, in some, is eatable; and others are much esteemed for their ornamental flowers.

Six, out of the forty-five species of the Hibiscus, are sufficiently hardy to bear the open air in this country. Three of these, however, unless the summer proves very warm, seldom flower in the open air of Great Britain; though, if planted in a sheltered situation, the roots will live.

“ The only way,” says Miller, “ to have these plants flower in this country, is to keep the roots in pots; and to shelter them under a frame in winter, and plunge them into a gentle hot-bed in the spring, which will cause them to put out their stalks early: and when the stalks are so high as to reach the glasses, the pots may be removed into a glass-case; where, if they are duly supplied with water, and have plenty of air in hot weather, they will flower very well in July, and in warm seasons will ripen their seeds.”

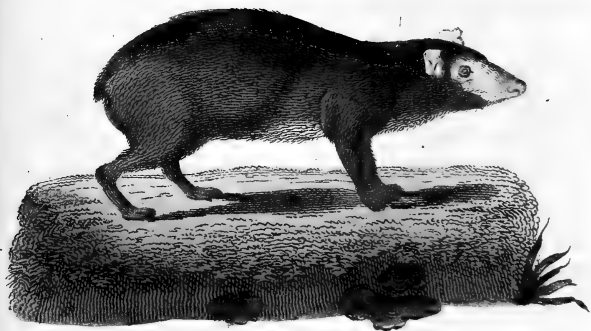
Five species, four of which are of the Cape of Good Hope, and the fifth is of South Carolina, require the protection of the Green-house, Cape-stove, or glass-case. The rest, being far the greatest number, or three-fourths of the whole, must be kept in the bark-stove, where some of them will make a splendid figure. The principal mode of propagating these, is by seeds sown in a good hot-bed in the spring; and the plants afterwards put into pots filled with light earth, and plunged into a fresh hot-bed: treating them, afterwards, in the same way as the Amaranths. The more tender sorts must be plunged, in autumn, into the tan-bed; where they must be kept, and treated, like other tender plants from hot climates, and have very little water in winter. Several of these sorts will produce seed in a good hot-house. Most of them may also be propagated by cuttings; particularly, the China Rose, which is esteemed the most beautiful of the whole genus.

The Smooth Hibiscus, or *Hibiscus Speciosus* of the Linnæan system, which is the plant represented in the annexed figure, is specifically

cally described as having the leaves palmate and smooth; the segments lanceolate-serrate; and the stem, peduncles, and calyces, even. It is perennial; and very nearly allied to the *Hibiscus Lævis*, described by Scopoli, in his *Flora Insubrica*: only, in this, the leaves are all five-lobed; whereas, in Scopoli's plant, they are only three-lobed.

This rare plant is a native of South Carolina; was first cultivated here, by Dr. Fothergill, in 1778; and blows in September.

Our figure is from an original drawing, made by Mr. Miller, from the living plant, which blew in the garden of the late Dr. Fothergill, at Upton, in 1783.



AGOUTI.

Published Oct. 2. 1860. by Harrison, Clark & Co. 178. Fleet Street.

AGOUTI.

THE Agouti, which is a species of the Cavy, is the *Cavia Aguti* of the Linnæan system; and consists of the three following varieties—1. The *Cavia Aguti Cunicularis*, or the Lesser Agouti; 2. *Cavia Aguti Leporina*, or the Larger Agouti; and, 3. *Cavia Aguti Americana*, or the American Agouti.

Pennant calls the first, the Long-Nosed Cavy; the second, the Olive Cavy; and the third, the Javan Cavy.

Agouti, Acuti, or Couti, is the native Indian name; but, according to Piso, and Marcgrave, it is, in Brasil, called Cotia.

The animal figured and described by Buffon, under the name of the Agouti, and which we have copied, appears to be the Long-Nosed Cavy of Pennant; and it is, also, the Long-Nosed Rabbit mentioned in Wafer's Voyage.

“ This

“ This animal,” says Buffon, “ is about the size of a Hare; and has been regarded, by most systematic writers, as a species of Rabbit, or large Rat. These animals, however, it resembles in some minute characters only; but, in natural dispositions, it differs essentially from them both. It has the rudeness of hair, the grunting, and likewise the voracious appetite, of the Hog: and, when fully glutted, it conceals, like the Fox, the remainder of it’s food, in different places. The Agouti delights in cutting and gnawing every thing it meets with. When irritated, the hair of it’s back rises, and it strikes the ground forcibly with it’s hind feet. It’s bite is cruel. In Souchu de Rennefort’s *Histoire des Indes*, it is said, that this animal is very mischievous; and that the Capuchins of Olinda, in Brasil, having brought up a young one, and even used the precaution of extracting his teeth, found him continue to extend his devastations as far as his chain permitted. It digs not a hole, like the Rabbit; nor sits on the ground, like the Hare: but, generally, lives in the hollows of decayed trees. Fruits, Potatoes, and Manioc, are the common food of those

those which live near the habitations of men. But those which live in the woods and savannahs, feed on leaves and roots, plants and shrubs. The Agouti, like the Squirrel, uses it's fore-feet in holding it's food, and carrying it to it's mouth. It runs very nimbly, both on plain and rising grounds: but, as it's fore-legs are much shorter than it's hind-legs, it would tumble headlong, if it did not slacken it's pace in descending. Both it's eye, and it's ear, are fine. It stops and listens to the sound of music. The flesh, when the animal is fat and well fed, is not very bad; though it be hard, and of no very agreeable taste. The Agouti is scalded, and made ready, in the same manner as a Pig. It is hunted with Dogs. When forced among the Sugar Canes, it is soon taken: because these grounds being generally covered a foot thick with straw and leaves, it sinks at each leap, in this litter; so that a man may overtake it, and dispatch it with a stick. It commonly runs very nimbly before the Dogs; and, when it regains it's retreat, it lies squat, and remains obstinately in it's concealment. The hunters are obliged to force it out, by filling it's hole with smoke. The animal, half-suffocated,

suffocated, utters mournful cries; but never issues forth, unless pushed to the last extremity. Its cry, which it often repeats when disturbed or irritated, resembles that of a small Hog. If taken young, it is easily tamed; and goes out, and returns, of its own accord. These animals commonly reside in the woods and hedges; where the Females chuse a place well covered and bushy, and there prepare a bed of leaves and hay for her young. They annually produce two or three; but, generally, two. Like the Wild Cats, they transport their young, two or three days after the birth, into the hollows of trees, where they suckle them for a short time. The young are soon in a condition to follow their mother, and to search for food. Thus their time of growth is short; and, consequently, the duration of their lives cannot be long.

“ The Agouti appears to be an animal peculiar to the southern parts of America, as none of them are ever found in the Old World. They are common in Brasil, in Guiana, in St. Domingo, and in all the islands. They seem to require a warm climate, in order to subsist
and

and to multiply. They can live, however, in France, if kept in a dry place, and sheltered from the winter frosts. Even in America, they appear not in the temperate or cold regions. In the islands, there is only the species of Agouti which we have described. At Cayenne, and in Guiana and Brasil, a second species is mentioned, called Agouchi, which is said to be uniformly smaller than the first. But we are assured, by the evidence of persons who have lived long at Cayenne, and who know both the Agouti, and the Agouchi, the latter of which we have never been able to procure, that the animal we have described is the true Agouti. We had it alive. It was as large as a Rabbit. It's hair was rude; and of a brown colour, a little mixed with red. It's upper lip was divided like that of the Hare. It's tail was still shorter than the tail of the Rabbit. The ears were short and broad. The upper jaw advanced beyond the under. The muzzle resembled that of the Dormouse; and the teeth, those of the Marmot. The neck was long, and the legs were slender. It had four toes on the fore-feet, and three on the hind-feet. Brisson is the only writer

writer who has not copied this error of Marcgrave. Having described the animal from nature, he found, as we did, that it had only three toes on each of the hind-feet.

“ M. De la Borde,” adds Buffon, by way of supplement, “ informs us that, in Guiana, it is the most common quadruped; all the woods, plains, heights, and even the marshes, being full of these animals.

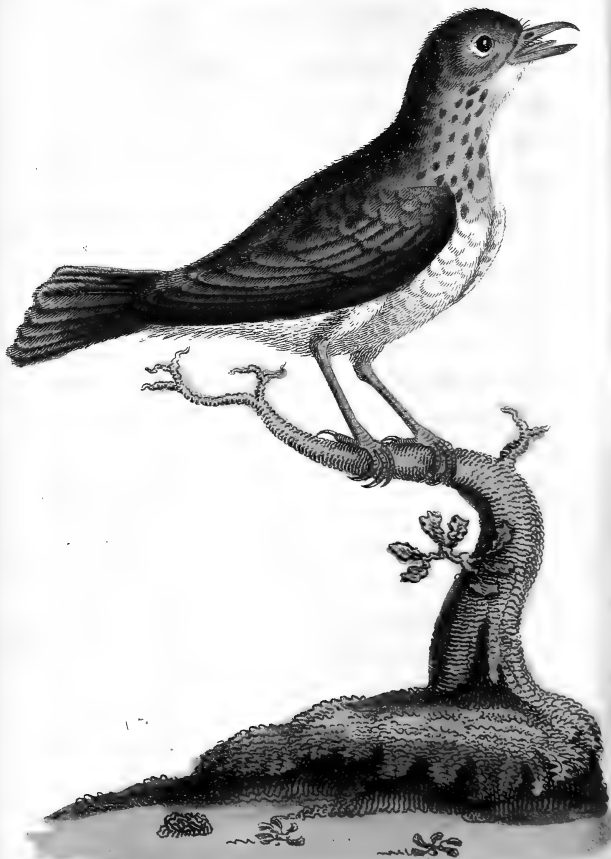
“ The Agouti,” says he, “ is about the
 “ size of a Hare; it’s skin is hard; and lasts
 “ very long, when employed as an upper-
 “ leather for shoes. It has no grease: it’s
 “ flesh is as white, and nearly as good, as that
 “ of the Rabbit, having the same taste and
 “ flavour. Whether old or young; their flesh
 “ is always tender; but those which inhabit
 “ the sea-coast are best. They are taken in
 “ traps, or hunted with dogs. The Indians,
 “ or Negroes, who know how to allure them,
 “ by whistling, or imitating their cries, kill as
 “ many of them as they please. When pur-
 “ sued, they conceal themselves, like the Rab-
 “ bits, in the holes of old trees. They hold
 “ their

“ their food in their paws, like the Squirrel.
“ Their ordinary food, which they often con-
“ ceal in the earth, to be used occasionally,
“ consists of the nuts of the Maripa, of the
“ Tourlovri, of the Corana, &c. and, after
“ concealing these nuts, they often touch
“ them not for six months. They multiply
“ as fast as the Rabbits; producing three,
“ four, and sometimes five, young ones, during
“ every season of the year. They live not
“ in numbers in the same hole; but are either
“ found alone, or the mother with her young.
“ They are easily tamed, and eat almost every
“ thing. When in a domestic state, they re-
“ move not to any great distance, and always
“ return to the house spontaneously: but
“ they constantly retain a little of their sa-
“ vage disposition. In general, they remain
“ in their holes during the night, unless the
“ moon shines bright; but they run about
“ almost the whole of the day. There are
“ some countries, as about the mouth of the
“ River of the Amazons, where these animals
“ are so numerous, that they are often met
“ with in scores.”

It may not be improper to remark, that where the above account of M. De la Borde, differs from Buffon's preceding description, as it materially does in two or three instances, there can be little doubt that M. De la Borde's information is most to be relied on, from his very superior opportunities of obtaining a knowledge of these animals.

Goldsmith observes, that the English settlers dress the Agouti like a Hare, with a pudding in the belly; and not, as the French are said to do, like a pig.





LITTLE THRUSH.

Published Oct. 2. 1800, by Harrison, Church, & Co. 178. Fleet Street.

LITTLE THRUSH.

WE describe this bird under the name of the Little Thrush; because it is so called by Edwards, whose excellent figure we have copied. The account which he gives of it is as follows—

“ The upper mandible of the bill is dusky, or blackish; the lower is dusky at the point, and yellow toward the head: some short hairs arise about the angles of the mouth. It has a lightish ring round the eye. The head, upper side of the neck, back, wings, and tail, are all of a reddish brown, or clay-colour; not at all varying in the shades of the feathers, as they do in our English Thrushes. The underside of the wings, and of the tail, are ash-coloured; except that the inner webs of the quills are whitish toward their bottoms. The throat, just beneath the bill, is whitish; the breast yellowish, with dusky spots. The belly, thighs, and covert-feathers beneath the tail, are white, a little shaded with ash-coloured. The legs, feet, and claws, are of a flesh-colour.

“ This

“ This bird,” adds Edwards, “ I received, together with a smaller species of the Thrush” —[the Golden-Crowned Thrush of Edwards]—“ from my good friend Mr. William Bartram, of Philadelphia, in Pennsylvania: who says, that they arrive in April; and continue with them all the summer, where they breed and bring up their young. Catesby has figured it in his History of Carolina, but has given no description of it. He only says that, in shape and colour, it agrees with the Mavis, or Song Thrush; and differs only in bigness, weighing no more than an ounce and a quarter: though, on comparing it with the Song Thrush, I found reason to give it quite a different description. According to Catesby, they continue in Carolina all the year, abiding in thick woods and swamps; but they do not sing. Sir Hans Sloane calls this bird simply the Thrush: and says, they frequent the woody mountains, &c. but whether, or no, it be a bird of passage, he does not inform us. (See his History of Jamaica, Vol. II.) Those which go far to the north are birds of passage: Pennsylvania having very cold winters, they cannot stay there; but Carolina, being many degrees

degrees farther south, it's winters are mild enough for their subsistence during that season."

The Little Thrush, is the *Turdus Minor* of the Linnæan system: the *Turdus Iliacus Carolinensis*, of Brisson; and the *Grivette d'Amerique*, of Buffon. Klein calls it, erroneously, *Turdus Minimus*; because the Golden-Crowned Thrush of Edwards is less.

According to Buffon, who classes our Little Thrush among his Foreign Birds that are related to the Thrustles, "this bird occurs not only in Canada, but in Pennsylvania, Carolina, and as far as Jamaica: it spends only the summer in the northern provinces; though, in the milder regions of the south, it resides the whole year. In Carolina, it haunts the thickest woods contiguous to the swamps; but, in the hotter climate of Jamaica, it retires to the forests that cover the mountains. The specimens described or figured by naturalists differ in the colours of their feathers, of their bill, and of their legs; which would imply—if they all belong to one species—that the
plumage

plumage of the American Thrustles is no less variable than those of Europe, and that they all spring from a common stem: This conjecture derives force from the numerous analogies which this bird has to the Thrushes, in it's shape, in it's port, in it's propensity to migrate and to feed on berries, in the yellow colour of it's internal parts observed by Sloane, and in the speckles which appear on it's breast: but it seems the most nearly related to our Thrustle and Red-Wing, and a comparison of the points of similarity is necessary to determine the species to which it belongs.

“ This bird,” pursues Buffon, “ is smaller than any of our Thrushes; as, in general, are all the birds of America, if compared with their archetypes in the old continent. Like the Red-Wing, it does not sing: and it has fewer speckles than that species; and, therefore, than any of the genus. Like the Red-Wing, also, it's flesh is delicate.

“ So far the American Thrush resembles the Red-Wing: but it has more numerous relations to our Thrustle; and, in my opinion,
more

more decisive ones. It has beards round the bill; a sort of yellowish plate on the breast; it readily settles, and remains, in a country which affords it subsistence; and its cry is like the winter notes of the Thristle, and therefore unpleasant; as, generally, are the cries of all birds that live in wild countries, inhabited by savages. Besides, the Thristle, and not the Red-Wing, is found in Sweden; whence it could easily migrate into America.

“ This Thristle arrives in Pennsylvania in the month of May: it continues there the whole of the summer; during which time, it hatches and raises its young. Catesby tells us, that but few of these Thristles are seen in Carolina: whether, because a part only settle, of what arrives; or that, as we have already observed, they conceal themselves in the woods. They subsist on the berries of the Holly, of the White-Thorn, &c. In the specimens described by Sloane, the nostrils were wider, and the feet longer, than in those described by Catesby, and by Brisson. Nor was their plumage the same: and, if these differences were constant,” concludes Buffon, in which we
entirely

entirely agree, “ we should have reason to conclude that they belong to another family; or, at least, are a permanent variety of this species.”

The fact is, that Gmelin, and Latham, call our Little Thrush, *Turdus Minor*; and that of Sir Hans Sloane, *Turdus Jamaicensis*, or the Jamaica Thrush. The latter is thus characterized by Latham—“ It is dusky-cinereous; below, white: it's throat, striated longitudinally with brown; it's breast, cinereous.”





GADYEGALBADYERAH. OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Published Oct. 5. 1866, by Harrison, Chase & Co. 178. Fleet Street.

GADYEGALBADYERAH,

OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

OF this elegant and beautiful flower, which has never before been figured, we are enabled to give the native appellation. The pronunciation of the word may be better guessed, by exhibiting a division of most of the syllables of which it consists, as they were written down by the friend from whom we received both the original drawing and the native name; viz. Gad-ye-gal-ba-dyerah: it is, however, he assures us, only a single word—Gadyegalbadyerah; nor can we find that it has any other meaning, than to denote this flower.

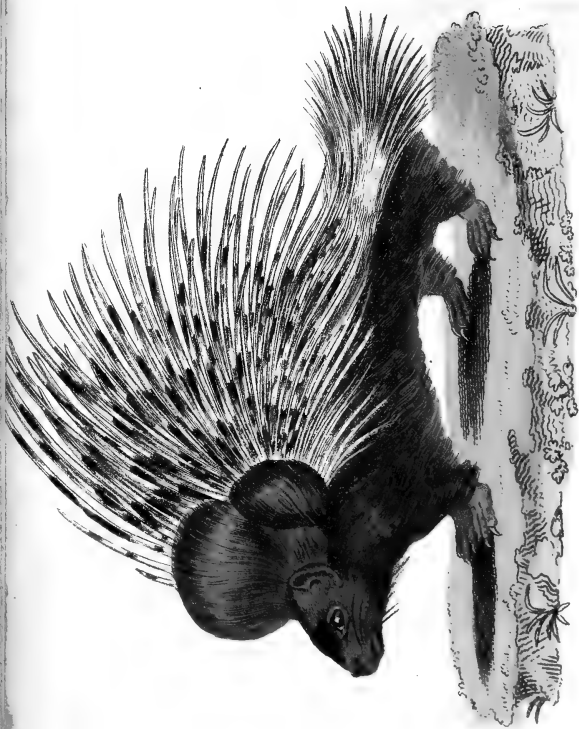
From the figure, it appears obviously a Bell-flower, but we do not possess sufficient information to assign it the exact station which it ought to hold in systematical Botany. It seems to approximate both the Campanula, and the Hyacinthus.

This

This flower is nearly double the size represented in our figure; and the bells are melliferous, or abounding with honey, which is the case with many of the flowers of New South Wales. It is perennial; and grows spontaneously, in a rough or gravelly soil.

BRICK

NATION



PORCUPINE.

PORCUPINE.

THE ancients, from the singular armour of this genus of animals, were induced to describe the Porcupine as a skilful and potent warrior; capable of showering it's darts on an enemy, and lancing each particular weapon with a most unerring aim: and, by the numerous herd of those weak compilers of natural history, who greedily adopt, without reflection, or enquiry, every thing of the marvellous, has this falshood been propagated constantly as a fact, till even minds of considerable vigour have scarcely dared to oppose it with a positive and compleat denial.

In the celebrated "*Memoires pour Servir a l'Histoire des Animaux*," by the Members of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris—"Those quills," say the Anatomists of the Academy, "which were strongest and shortest, easily parted from the skin, being less firmly attached to it than the others. These
"are

“ are likewise the quills which the Porcupines
 “ dart against the Hunters; by shaking their
 “ skin, as Dogs do when they come out of
 “ the water. Claudian in the same manner
 “ remarks, that the Porcupine is, himself, the
 “ bow, the quiver, and the arms, which he
 “ employs against the hunters.”

On this passage, Buffon judiciously notes, that “ Fable is the province of the Poet; and, therefore, Claudian merits no reproach: but the Anatomists of the Academy should not have adopted this fable, which they seem to have done for no other purpose than that of quoting Claudian; for, from their own account, it appears that the Porcupine does not dart it’s quills to a distance, but that they only fall off when it shakes itself. Wormius, Wotton, Aldrovandus, and several other respectable writers, have adopted this error.

Bosman, in his *Voyage to Guinea*, asserts that, “ when the Porcupine is enraged, it darts it’s quills, which are sometimes two spans in length, with such rapidity and force, against men and other animals, that they will pierce a plank of wood.”

According

According to Buffon, “ the Porcupine, though originally a native of the warmest climates of Africa and India, can exist and multiply in colder countries; such as Persia, Spain, and Italy. Agricola remarks, that the Porcupine was not transported into Europe long before his time. It is found in Spain; and, more commonly, in Italy; particularly, in the Apennine mountains, in the environs of Rome.

“ Aristotle, Pliny, and all the naturalists, tell us that the Porcupine, like the Bear, conceals itself during the winter, and brings forth in thirty days. These facts, we have not been able to ascertain: and it is singular that, in Italy, where the animal is common, and where, at all periods, there have been learned Philosophers, and acute observers, no man has ever written it's history. On this subject, as well as on many others, Aldrovandus has only copied Gesner; and the Gentlemen of the Academy, who have described and dissected eight Porcupines, say little or nothing concerning their œconomy and manners. We only learn, from the testimony of travellers, and of those who keep the Porcupine in menageries, that
in

in a domestic state it is neither wild nor ferocious, but only anxious for liberty; and that, by the assistance of it's fore-teeth, which are strong and sharp, like those of the Beaver, it cuts wood, and pierces the door of it's cage. We likewise know, that it is easily fed on crumbs of bread, on cheese, and on fruits: that, in a state of liberty, it lives on fruits and wild seeds; that, when it gets admission to a garden, it makes great havock, and devours all kinds of pot-herbs with avidity; that, like most other animals, it becomes fat about the end of summer; and, that it's flesh, though somewhat insipid, is not bad to eat.

“ By examining the form, substance, and organization, of the quills,” concludes Buffon, “ we easily perceive that they are tubes; and only want vanes, to be real feathers. From this circumstance, the Porcupine constitutes the shade between quadrupeds and birds. The quills, particularly those near the tail, make a noise, by striking each other, when the animal walks. It can elevate or depress it's quills, as the Peacock raises or lowers the feathers of his tail. Hence, the muscular part
of

of the skin is capable of acting with force, and it's structure is nearly the same with that of some birds. We have marked these relations, though not very apparent. It is always desirable to fix one point in Nature: who often escapes our researches; and seems, in her productions, to sport with those who wish to cultivate her acquaintance."

The great French naturalist, who has figured both an Indian and an Italian Porcupine, observes, that the slight differences between them depend on climate; or they are, perhaps, only individual variëties. His history of the Porcupine is copious, but very defective; particularly, in the descriptive part, and the just discriminations of the several species.

Buffon only notices three species of the Porcupine: but there are, in the Linnæan system, five known species—1. The *Hystrix Cristata*, or Crested Porcupine; 2. the *Hystrix Prehensilis*, or Brazilian Porcupine; 3. the *Hystrix Mexicana*, or Mexican Porcupine; 4. the *Hystrix Dorsata*, or Canadian Porcupine; and, 5. the *Hystrix Macroura*, or Long-Tailed

Tailed Porcupine. Of the first, there are two varieties, the European, and the Indian Porcupines; of the second, a lesser and a smaller species; of the fourth, there is a white variety; and, of the fifth, a variety called the *Hystrix Torosa*, or Brawny Porcupine.

The first species, or *Hystrix Cristata*, may be considered as the Common Porcupine, whether it be a native of Europe, or of Africa or Asia. They are mere varieties of the same species; and chiefly differ in the size of the quills and of the crest, which do not in Europe attain so large or luxuriant a growth. The Indian Porcupine, which we have figured, is about two feet long, and fifteen inches high; and the tail, which is of a conical form, and covered with quills, is at least four inches in length. The head is long, and compressed laterally; and the nose is short and blunt. The upper lip is deeply divided, as far as the nostrils; the eyes are small, and black; and the ears are short, broad, oval, and somewhat like those of mankind. The legs are short and thick; and there are four toes on the forefeet, and five on the hind. The body is covered

vered with long and strong spines, or quills,
 from ten to fourteen inches in length. Each
 quill is inserted into the animal's skin, in the
 same manner as feathers grow on birds. They
 are spongy within, like the top of a Goose-
 quill: and are of different colours; chiefly,
 white and black, in alternate rings, from one
 end to the other. The largest are sometimes
 found fifteen inches long: and of a quarter of
 an inch diameter, in the middle or largest part;
 from whence they taper, and become sharp at
 each end. Externally, they are peculiarly
 sharp, and capable of inflicting a mortal wound.
 They are much harder than common quills,
 and quite solid at that end which is not fixed in
 the skin. Among these principal quills, grow
 other long ones of a more flexible and slender
 structure; and, near the tail, there is still ano-
 ther sort, which are white, and transparent,
 like Goose-quills, and seem cut short at the end.
 All these quills, of whatever kind, incline
 backwards, like the bristles of a Hog; but,
 when the animal is irritated, they rise and
 stand upright. Between the spines are a few
 cinereous or ash-coloured hairs; and the head,
 belly, legs, and every other part of the body,
 are

are covered with strong bristles of a dusky colour, intermixed with soft hairs : in short, there is no part free from them, except the soles of the feet, and the ears; the former of which are quite bare, and the latter thinly covered with very fine hair. The flesh of the Porcupine is said to be sold in the markets of Italy.

This animal, in it's natural state, dwells in large burrows, or holes, of it's own digging; which have a single entrance, and are divided into many apartments. It goes about, during night, in search of food. When threatened by an enemy, it rolls itself into a round form, presenting it's quills, or spines, on every side, as a defence. The female brings from two to four young ones at a birth, in the spring; and these are said to be very easily tamed.

Dr. Goldsmith observes, that "there are many things related concerning this animal, that are fabulous; but there are still many circumstances more, that yet remain to be known. It were curious," he says, "to enquire, whether this animal moults it's quills when wild, for it is never seen to shed them in a domestic state; whether

whether it sleeps all the winter, as we are told by some naturalists, which we are sure it does not when brought into our country; and, lastly, whether it's quills can be sent off with a shake, for no less a naturalist than Reaumur was of that opinion. All," adds Goldsmith, "that we can learn, of an animal exposed as a shew, or even by it's dissection, is but merely it's conformation, and that makes one of the least interesting parts of it's history. We are naturally led, when presented with an extraordinary creature, to expect something extraordinary in it's way of living; something uncommon, and corresponding with it's figure: but, of this animal, we know little with any precision, except what it offers in a state of captivity. In such a situation, that which I saw appeared to very little advantage. It was extremely dull, and torpid, though very wakeful; and extremely voracious, though very capable of sustaining hunger; as averse to any attachment, as to being tamed. It was kept in an iron cage; and the touching one of the bars was sufficient to excite it's resentment, for it's quills were instantly erected; and the Poet was right in his epithet of "fretful," for it

it appeared to me the most irascible creature on earth."

We are told, by Ellis, that a Wolf, at Hudson's Bay, was found dead, with the quills of a Porcupine fixed in it's mouth: but this, it is probable, rather arose from the voraciousness of the former, than the resentment of the latter: the Wolf, in the rage of it's ravenous appetite, probably endeavoured to devour the Porcupine in spite of the quills, which it might consider as merely small bones, and thus sacrifice life to it's greedy gluttony.

It is said, by Goldsmith, that "the Porcupine never attempts to bite, or any way to injure it's pursuers: if hunted by a Dog, or Wolf, it instantly climbs up a tree, and continues there till it has wearied out the patience of it's adversary. The Wolf knows, by experience, how fruitless it would be to wait; he therefore, leaves the Porcupine above, and looks out for a new adventure. The Porcupine, does not escape so well from the Indian hunter; who eagerly pursues it, in order to make embroidery of it's quills, and to eat it's flesh."





EAST INDIAN BLUE JAY.

Published Oct. 9th 1846. by Harrison, Chas. & W. J. 8, Fleet Street.

EAST-INDIAN BLUE JAY.

THOUGH we have preserved the name given by Edwards to this bird, which he originally figured; it must nevertheless be acknowledged, that systematic writers have placed it among the Rollers, and not among the Jays.

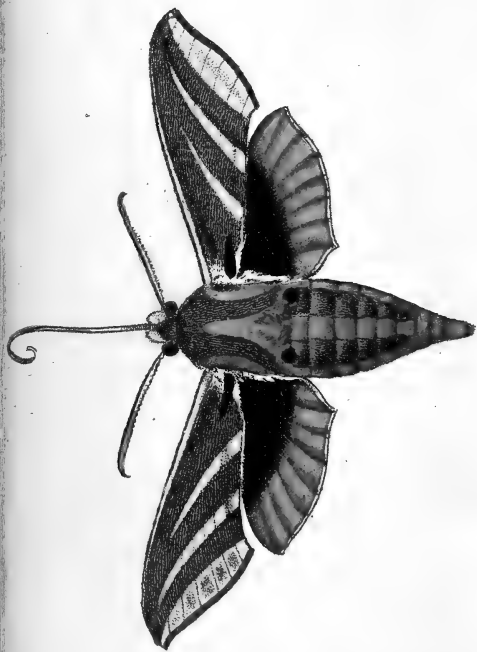
In the Linnæan List of Edwards's Birds, it is denominated *Coracias Indica*: and subsequent naturalists have noticed it under that name. Buffon has entirely neglected to mention it.

The Blue Jay from the East Indies is full as large as our European Jay; and, certainly, has much similarity of appearance, though it is greatly superior in the beauty of its plumage. Edwards says, that "the wing, when closed, measured seven inches."

The account which he gives of this bird is as follows—

“ The





LARGE ELEPHANT MOTH.

LARGE ELEPHANT MOTH.

THE Linnæan name of this grand and beautiful English Moth, is Elpenor: Moses-Harris, and other British Aurelians, call it the Large Elephant Moth.

It is one of the larger species of English Moths; and the biggest of the Elephant genus in this country, the expansion of the wings being full three inches.

The superior wings, which are a fine olive, bordered with rose-colour, have two bars crossing the wings, and ending in sharp points near the tips.

The inferior wings are a fine black near the upper wings, edged with rose-colour.

The thorax, and abdomen, are of the same colour, beautifully marked.

The Caterpillar of the Large Elephant Moth feeds on Ladies Bedstraw: and, according

ing to Moses Harris, changes into a brown Chrysalis on the second of August, or thereabouts; appears in it's winged state, on the twenty-third of May; and may then usually be found in the marshes near Rotherhithe, which it much frequents.

As the Caterpillar of this Moth feeds in marshy grounds, it is observable that Nature, ever providently guarding each species from annihilation, has furnished the animal with a wonderful preservative from drowning, which is thus described by Moses Harris.—

“ Three joints of this Caterpillar,” says he, “ beginning at the second joint from the head, are hollow; which the animal can fill with wind, or air, if by accident it falls into the water. These parts being filled with air, support the animal perpendicularly in the water, in exactly the same position as the float of a fishing-line, till it is wafted near any plant or blade of grass, by which it can disengage itself from that element, which in a short time would prove it's destruction.”





LEMING.

Published Oct. 10th 1800, by Harrison, Glasse & Co. N^o. 208. Newgate Street.

LEMING.

THIS wonderful little animal, is the *Mus Lemmus*, of Linnæus; the *Lemmar*, or *Lemmus*, of Olaus Magnus; the *Mus Norwegicus*, or *Norwegian Mouse*, or *Lemming*, of Ray, of Wormius, and of Pontoppidan; the *Leem*, or *Lemmer*, of Aldrovandus, and of Gesner; the *Cuniculus Norwegicus*, or *Norwegian Coney*, of Brisson; the *Lemming*, of Buffon; and the *Lemmus Rat*, or *Lapland Marmot*, of Pennant. We, however, have adopted the name *Leming*, which is it's *Norwegian* appellation.

According to Buffon, “Olaus Magnus is the first who mentions the *Leming*. All,” says he, “that Gesner, Scaliger, Ziegler, Johnston, &c. have related concerning it, is borrowed from this author. But Wormius, after the most accurate researches, has written a history of this animal, which he describes in the following manner—“It has,” he remarks, “the figure of a *Mouse*; but the tail
“is

“ is shorter, and the body about five inches
 “ long. The hair is fine, and spotted with
 “ various colours. The fore-part of the
 “ head is black, and the hind-part yellowish.
 “ The neck and shoulders are black. “ The
 “ rest of the body is reddish; and marked
 “ with small black spots of different figures,
 “ as far as the tail, which exceeds not half an
 “ inch in length, and is covered with blackish
 “ yellow hairs. Neither the figure nor order
 “ of the spots are the same in every indivi-
 “ dual. Round the mouth there are several
 “ stiff hairs, in the form of whiskers; of
 “ which, six on each side are longer and stif-
 “ fer than the rest. The opening of the
 “ mouth is small; and the upper lip is divided,
 “ as in the Squirrels. From the upper jaw
 “ proceed two long, sharp, and somewhat
 “ crooked, cutting-teeth, the roots of which
 “ penetrate as far as the orbits of the eyes.
 “ Two similar teeth, in the under jaw, cor-
 “ respond with those above: and there are
 “ three grinders, on each side, situated at a
 “ distance from the cutting-teeth. The first
 “ of the grinders is large, and composed of
 “ four lobes; the second, of three lobes; and
 “ the

“ the third is much smaller. Each of these
 “ three teeth has a separate socket, and they
 “ are placed in the palate at a considerable
 “ distance from one another. The tongue is
 “ pretty large, and extends to the extremity of
 “ the cutting-teeth. From the remains of
 “ herbs and straw found in it's throat, we are
 “ inclined to think that it is a ruminating ani-
 “ mal. The eyes are small, and black ; the
 “ ears recline on the back. The fore-legs are
 “ very short ; and the feet covered with hair,
 “ and armed with five sharp crooked claws.
 “ The middle toe is very long ; and the fifth is
 “ like a small thumb, or a Cock's spur, and
 “ sometimes situated equally high on the leg.
 “ The whole belly is whitish, inclined to yel-
 “ low,” &c.

“ These animals,” adds Buffon, “ though
 their body is thick, and their legs are very
 short, fail not to run pretty swiftly. They
 generally inhabit the mountains of Norway
 and Lapland ; but, in particular years, they
 sometimes descend in such numbers, that the
 arrival of the Lemings is considered as a ter-
 rible scourge, the effects of which it is impos-
 sible

sible to avoid. They make dreadful devastation in the fields; lay waste the gardens; ruin the crops; and leave nothing but what is shut up in houses, where they happily never enter. They bark nearly like small dogs. When struck at with a stick, they seize it so forcibly, with their teeth, that they permit themselves to be carried a considerable distance without quitting their hold. They dig holes in the earth, and make roads, like the Moles, in search of roots. At particular times they assemble together, and the whole die in company. They are very courageous, and defend themselves against other animals. It is not known from whence they come. The vulgar believe, that they fall from the clouds with the rain. The Male is generally larger than the Female, and his black spots are also larger. On the renewal of the grass they infallibly die. In fine weather, they take to the water, in vast multitudes; but, when a breeze of wind rises, they are all drowned. The number of these animals is so prodigious, that when they die the air is infected, and produces many diseases. They even seem to infect the plants which they gnaw, for the pasture then kills
the

the cattle. The flesh of the Lemings is not good; and their skin, though the hair be fine, does not answer for making furs, because it is too thick. It would appear," Buffon observes, "that the Lemings, like the Rats, mutually destroy and eat one another, when pasture fails them; and that this is the reason why their destruction is as sudden as their multiplication."

This is the account, at large, as given by Buffon, whose philosophic mind has adopted but little of the marvellous in which the history of these animals is enveloped: the predominant poetical imagination of Goldsmith, in spite of his philosophy, has not permitted him to be always equally proof against the fascinating charms of these fanciful relations. Our countryman Pennant, with far less of fancy than even Buffon, presents a more correct and not unanimated description of the Leming, accompanied by some information which has escaped the great French naturalist. His account is as follows—

"It inhabits Norway, and Lapland; the
country

country about the River Oby, and the north extremity of the Uralian Chain. These animals appear in numberless troops, at very uncertain periods, in Norway and Lapland. They are the pest, and wonder, of the country. They march like the army of Locusts, so emphatically described by the Prophet Joel; destroy every root of grass before them; and spread universal desolation. They infect the very ground, and cattle are said to perish with the taste of the grass which they have touched. They march by myriads, in regular lines: nothing stops their progress; neither fire, torrents, lake, or morass. They bend their course straight forward, with most amazing obstinacy. They swim over the lakes: the greatest rock gives them but a slight check; they go round it, and then resume their march directly on, without the least deviation. If they meet a peasant, they persist in their course, and jump as high as his knees in defence of their progress. They are so fierce as to lay hold of a stick, and suffer themselves to be swung about before they quit their hold. If struck, they turn about, and bite; and will make a noise like a dog.

“ They

“ They feed on grass, on the Rein-Deer Liverwort, and the catkins of the Dwarf Birch. The first they get under the snow: beneath which they wander during winter; make their lodgements; and have a spiracle to the surface, for the sake of air. In these retreats, they are easily pursued by the Arctic Foxes.

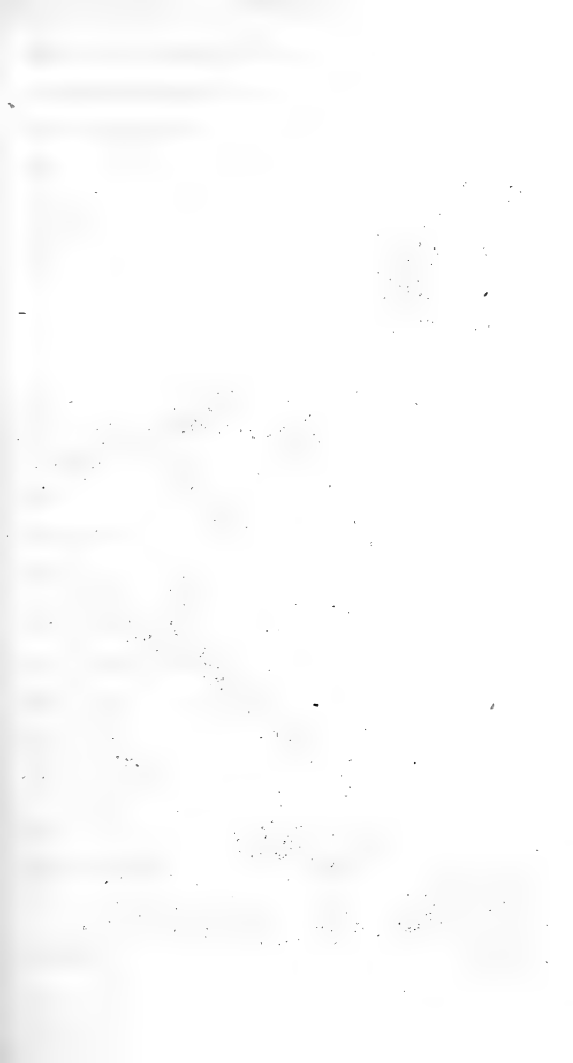
“ They make very shallow burrows under the turf, but do not form any magazines for winter provision. By this improvidence, it seems, they are compelled to make these numerous migrations, in certain years, urged by hunger to quit their usual residences.

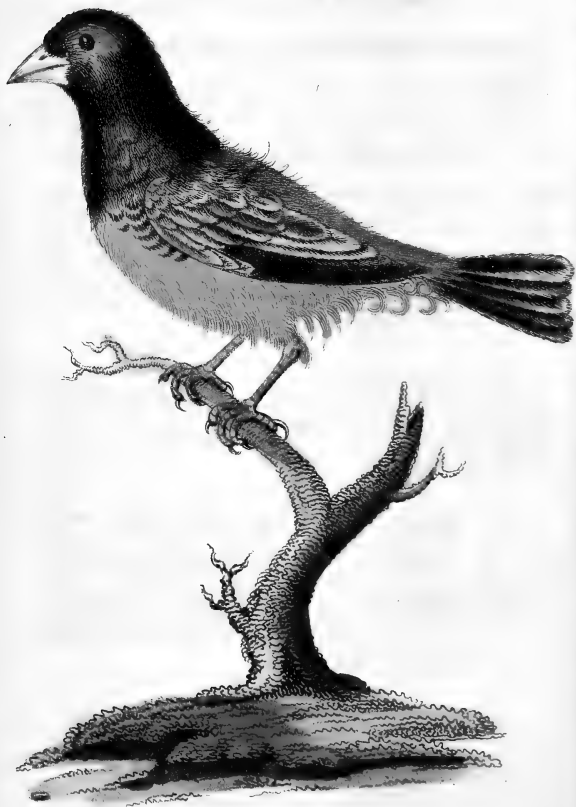
“ They breed often in the year, and bring five or six young at a time. Sometimes they bring forth in their migration: some they carry in their mouths, and others on their backs.

“ They are not poisonous, as is vulgarly reported; for they are often eaten by the Laplanders, who compare their flesh to that of Squirrels.

“ They are the prey of Foxes, Lynxes, and
Ermines,

Ermines, who follow them in great numbers. At length they perish: either through want of food; or, by destroying one another; or in some great water, or in the sea. They are the dread of the country. In former times spiritual weapons were exerted against them: the priest exorcised; and had a long form of prayer to avert the evil, the whole of which is preserved by Wormius. It was once seriously believed, that these animals were generated in the clouds, and fell in showers on the ground. Happily, it does not occur frequently; once or twice in twenty years. It seems like a vast colony of emigrants, from a nation over-stocked: a discharge of animals from the great Northern hive, that once poured out it's myriads of human creatures on Southern Europe. Where the head-quarters of these quadrupeds are, is not very certainly known: Linnæus says, the Norwegian and Lapland Alps; Pontoppidan seems to think, that Kollens Rock, which divides Nordland from Sweden, is their native place: but, wherever they come from, none return; their course is predestinated, and they pursue their fate!"





FRIZZLED FINCH.

FRIZZLED FINCH.

THOUGH we have copied the excellent figure of this bird from Edwards, we have not, as we generally do, adopted also the name under which he describes it. He calls it the Black and Yellow Frizzled Sparrow; and drew his figure of the natural size, from the living-bird, which was the property of Mrs. Clayton, of Flower, in Surry.

It is the *Fringilla Crispa*, of Linnæus, and of Brisson; and the Pinson Frisé, or Frizzled Finch, of Buffon.

Very little seems to be known about it, even by Edwards; yet his description, short as it is, appears to have furnished all the materials for that of Buffon, which is somewhat longer than any other.

Edwards tells us, that the bird had never before, as he believes, been either figured or described. It was, he says, a native of either Angola or the Brasils, but he could not determine

FRIZZLED FINCH.

termine which: “nor,” adds he, “do I imagine all the species of the Frizzled Bird are the same; because I have seen other instances of accidental frizzling, in some species of birds that are generally smooth-feathered.”

The little that follows, comprehends all that Edwards gives us as his history and description of this bird—

“The Frizzled Sparrow,” says he, “has the bill white; the head, and neck, black. The back, wings, rump, and tail, are of a blackish yellow-green, or dark olive colour. The breast, belly, thighs, and covert-feathers under the tail, are of a yellow colour. The legs and feet are of a dusky colour. It is called by the Portuguese *Beco de Prata*. Many of it’s feathers are curled or frizzled.”

Buffon’s account, obviously founded on the above, is as follows—

“This bird owes it’s name to the frizzled feathers on it’s back and belly. It’s bill is white; it’s head and neck black, as if it were
a hood

FRIZZLED FINCH.

a hood of that colour; the upper part of the body, including the quills of the tail and of the wings, brown olive; the under part of the body is yellow; and the legs are deep brown.

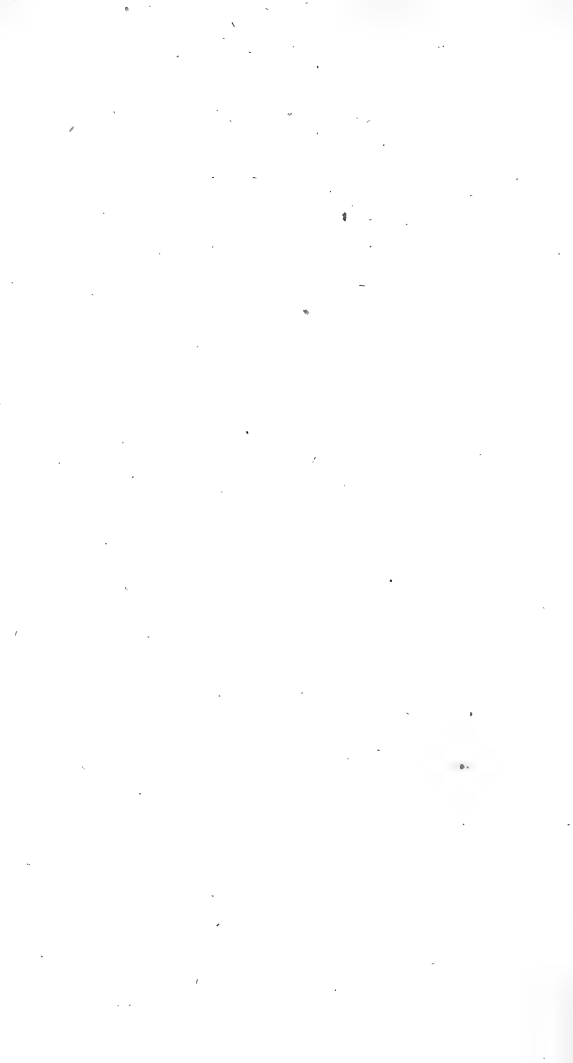
“ As this bird came from Portugal, it is presumed that it was sent from the principal settlements of that nation; viz. the kingdom of Angola in Africa, or from Brasil.

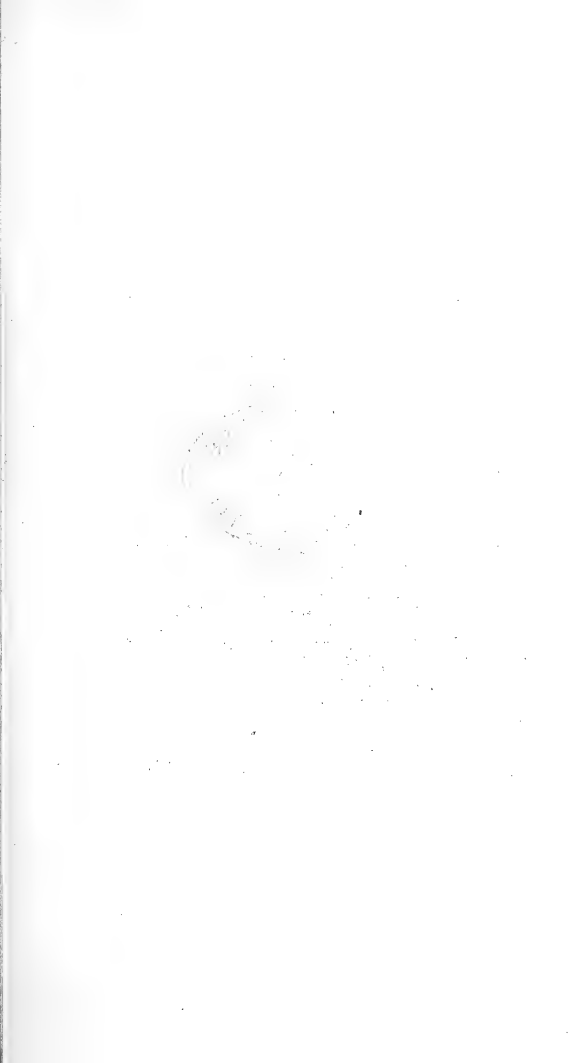
“ It is nearly of the size of the Common Chaffinch.

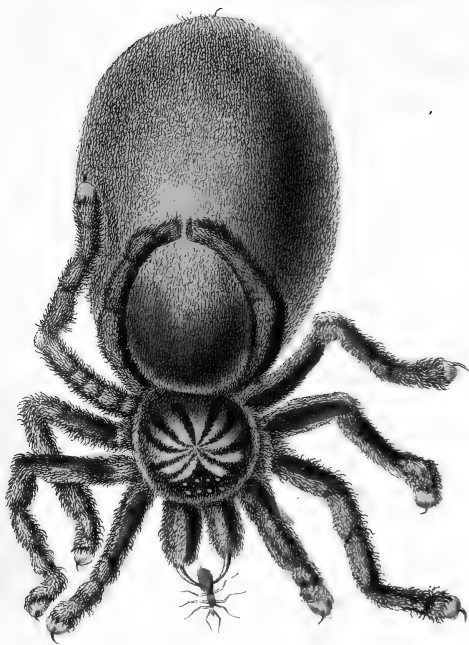
“ Total length, five inches and a half; the bill is five or six lines: the tail is composed of twelve equal quills, and extends twelve or thirteen lines beyond the wings.”

Brisson describes it as “ robed in frizzled feathers; dull olive above, yellowish below; the head and neck, black; the tail-quills, of a faint olive; the bill, white.”

It is easy to perceive, that all this might be written from the figure and description originally published by Edwards, without any other knowledge of the bird.







GREAT SURINAM SPIDER.

GREAT SURINAM SPIDER.

THIS Spider, which appears to be the largest of the genus, is the *Aranea Avicularia* of Linnaeus: so called, by that great naturalist, from it's being supposed to prey on the small birds of Surinam, as well as on insects. In the *Planches Enluminées*, a figure is given of this same Spider, there called the Great Spider of Surinam, in the act of devouring a *Colibri*, or Humming Bird.

The Great Surinam Spider is of an enormous bulk, and upwards of six inches long: the colour is chiefly a dusky brown, much like that of many of the smaller common species of European Spiders. The limbs are large, as represented in the annexed figure: and the creature is said to be mortally venomous, even to the human species; as, we conceive, all the Spiders are, in a slighter degree, sufficiently fatal to insects.

There appears to be very little known, by the writers of natural history, respecting this

Great

Great Surinam Spider. It seems evident, however, that the following account, which Capt. Stedman, in his Narrative of an Expedition to Surinam, has given of what he denominates the Bush Spider, may be referred to this insect, though the appearance be in some respects different.

“ In the evening,” says Capt. Stedman, “ a slave presented me with a Bush Spider; of such magnitude that, putting it into a case-bottle above eight inches high, it actually reached the surface with one of it’s hideous claws, while the others were resting at the bottom. No creature can be more dreadfully ugly than this enormous Spider, which the people of Surinam erroneously call the Taran-tula. The body is divided into two: the posterior part oval, and the size of an Orlean Plum; the fore-part square, with a figure somewhat resembling a star upon it. This monster has five pair of thick legs, with four joints in each; is entirely black, or dark brown; and covered over, legs and all, with thick and long black hair, like some Caterpillars. Each leg is armed with a crooked
yellow

yellow nail : and, from the head, project two long teeth, with inverted pincers, resembling the claws of a crab, with which it seizes it's prey ; while it's bite, if not fatal, by the venomous liquid infused into the wound, always occasions a fever.

“ It has eight eyes, like most spiders, and feeds on insects of every species ; nay, it is even asserted that young birds do not escape it, out of which this Spider sucks the blood. It's web is small, but very strong.

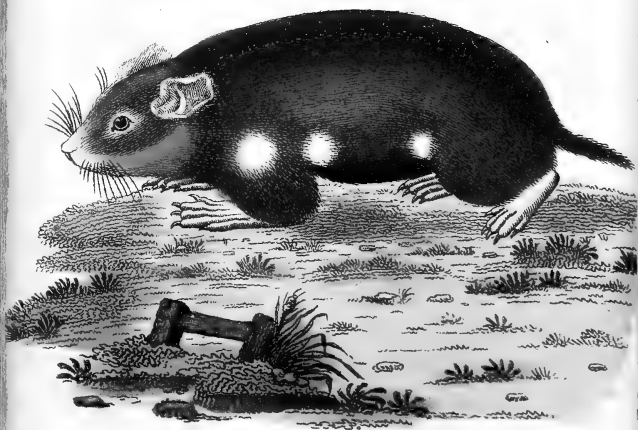
“ On the whole, it is such a hideous creature, that the very sight of it is sufficient to occasion a tremor of abhorrence, even in persons most accustomed to inspect the deformities of Nature !”

On this account, we may be permitted to remark, that the people of Surinam probably name it the Tarantula, merely from the malignity of it's bite, without regarding the dissimilarity of appearances. The size of an Orleans Plum is perhaps too indecisive, and scarcely gives an idea of the generally supposed

posed size, which is considered as larger than the Egg of a Domestic Hen. The square shape of the fore-part of the body might, perhaps, be accidental, or only apparent in a particular position ; and the excessive hairiness, as described, is not sufficiently manifest in our figure, which is copied from the Planches Enluminées.

The star-like mark, however, is a positive character: and it is chiefly from this, in conjunction with other circumstances, that we are induced to consider his Bush Spider, and our Great Spider, both of Surinam, as one and the same insect.





HAMSTER.

— Published Oct. 25-1866 by Harrison, Rose, & Co. 12108, Newgate Street.

HAMSTER.

THE Hamsters, or *Criceti*, called *Mures Buccati* in the *Systema Naturæ* of Linnæus, are a class of animals little otherwise distinguished from the Rat, than by their having cheek-pouches, and short tails not quite free from hairs. These differences have induced some naturalists to class them with the Marmot; but, as it should seem, without any sufficient foundation.

It is by no means generally agreed, among naturalists, to extend the appellation of Hamster as has sometimes been done, to all the *Criceti*. The *Cricetus Germanicus*, or German Hamster, represented in the annexed figure, is certainly the chief or common species.

This animal is the Hamster, or *Cricetus*, of Agricola, Gesner, Ray, Buffon, &c. the Strasbourg Marmot, of Brisson; the *Skrzeczek*, *Chomik*, of Rzaczinski; the *Porcellus Frumentarius*, of Schwenckfelde; the *Krietsch*, or Hamster, of Kramer, Pallas, and Zimmerman;

man; the Glis *Cricetus*, of Klein; and the German Marmot of Pennant's Synopsis, but the Hamster Rat of his subsequent History of Quadrupeds.

The Male Hamster is described as about ten inches long, and his tail three; but the Female as scarcely ever more than half so large: the former weighing, frequently, from twelve to sixteen ounces; and the latter, as it is said, seldom exceeding from four to six. This, indeed, evidently makes them less than half; and, at best, is not very consistent. The same may be observed with respect to the colour of the Hamster: which is generally described as of a reddish ash-colour; with a black belly, and three white spots on the side. But M. De Waitz, Minister of State to the Landgrave of Hesse-Cassel, who sent two Hamsters alive to Buffon, accompanied by an account of these animals, says that "the Hamsters are commonly brown on the back, and white on the belly." He adds—"Some of them, however, are grey; and this difference may be the effect of advanced age. Some of them are also totally black."

In the *Systema Naturæ*, the lower parts are said to be very black; and the sides reddish, with three white spots. M. Allamand describes the colour generally, as a mixture of red, yellow, white, and black. Goldsmith, after telling us that the belly and legs are of a dirty yellow; says, “they are usually found brown on the back, and white on the belly!”

Pennant’s description is as follows—“It has large, rounded ears; and full black eyes. The colour, on the head and back, is a reddish brown; the cheeks are red: beneath each ear, is a white spot, and another behind; and a fourth near the hinder legs. The breast, upper part of the fore-legs, and the belly, are black. The tail is short, and almost naked. It has four toes, and a fifth claw, on the fore-feet; five behind. They vary sometimes in colour: about Casan, is found, frequently, a family entirely black.”

It is observed, by M. Sulzer, that “the Corn-Rat, called in German the Hamster, cannot be more commodiously described than at Gotha; where, in one year, eleven thousand
five

five hundred and seventy-four skins of this animal, in another fifty-four thousand four hundred and twenty-nine, and in a third eighty thousand one hundred and thirty-nine, were delivered at the Town Hall.

Pennant says, that “ the Hamsters inhabit Austria, Silésia, and many parts of Germany, Poland, and the Ukraine ; all the southern and temperate parts of Russia and Síberia ; and even about the Jenesei, but not farther to the east. They are also found in the Tartarian desarts, in sandy soil, disliking moist places. They are very fond of spots which abound with Liquorice, on the seeds of which they feed. They swarm in Gotha. This animal is very destructive to grain : eating great quantities, and carrying still more to it’s hoard. Within it’s cheeks are two pouches, receptacles for it’s booty, which it fills till the cheeks seem ready to burst : the Germans, therefore, say of a very greedy fellow, “ Er frisst vuie
“ ein Hamster.”

“ They first form an entrance under ground, by burrowing down obliquely. At the end of
that

that passage, the Male sinks one perpendicular hole; the Female, several. At the end of these formed various vaults; either as lodges for themselves and young, or store-houses for their food. Each young has it's different apartment; each sort of grain it's different vault: the first, they line with straw or grass. These vaults are of different depths, according to the age of the animal: a young Hamster makes them scarcely a foot deep; an old one sinks them to the depth of four or five; and the whole diameter of the habitation, with all it's communications, is sometimes eight or ten feet.

The Male and Female have always separate burrows: for, excepting their short season of courtship, they have no intercourse. The whole race is so malevolent, as constantly to reject all society with one another. They will fight, kill, and devour, their own species, as well as other lesser animals; so may be said to be carnivorous, as well as granivorous. If it happens that two Males meet, in search of a Female, a battle ensues; and the Female makes a short attachment to the conqueror, after which the connection ceases. She brings forth

forth two or three times in a year; and brings from sixteen to eighteen at a birth. Their growth is very quick; and, at about the age of three weeks, the old one forces them out of the burrows, to take care of themselves. She shews little affection towards them; for if any one digs into the hole, she attempts to save herself by burrowing deeper into the earth, and totally neglects the safety of her brood: on the contrary, if attacked in the season of courtship, she defends the Male with the utmost fury.

“ They lie torpid from the first colds to the end of the winter; and, during that time, are seemingly quite insensible, and have the appearance of being dead: their limbs are stiff, and the body is as cold as ice; not even spirits of wine, or oil of vitriol, poured into them, can produce the least mark of sensibility! It is only in places beyond the reach of the air in which this animal grows torpid; for the severest cold on the surface does not affect it, as has been proved by experiment. In it's annual revival, it begins first to lose the stiffness of it's limbs; then breathes deeply, and by
long

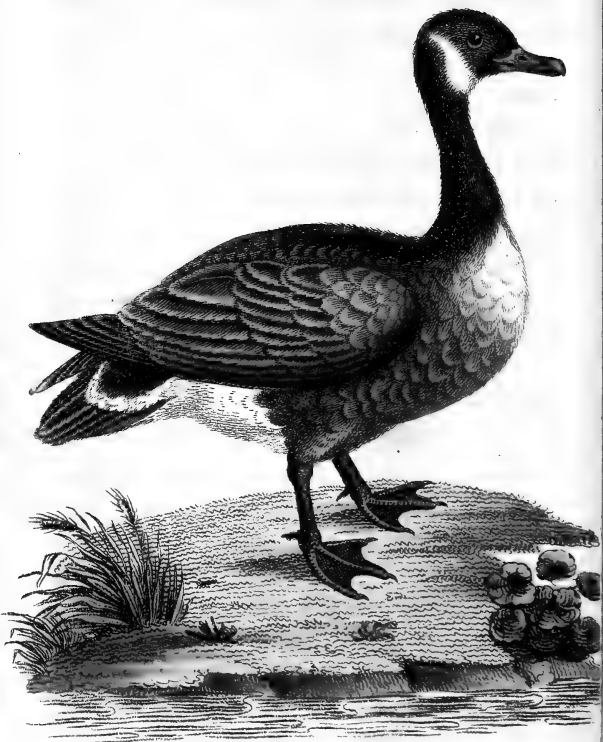
long intervals. On moving it's limbs, it opens it's mouth, and makes a rattle in the throat. After some days, it opens it's eyes, and tries to stand; but makes it's efforts like a person much in liquor. At length, when it has attained it's usual attitude, it rests for a long time in tranquillity, to recollect itself, and recover from it's fatigue.

“ They begin to lay in their provisions in August; and will carry grains of corn, corn in the ear, and peas and beans in the pods; which they clean in their holes, and carry the husks carefully out. The pouches are so capacious, as to hold a quarter of a pint. As soon as they have finished this work, they stop up the mouth of their passage carefully. As they lie torpid during the whole severe season, these hoards are designed for their support on their first retreat, and in the spring and the beginning of the summer, before they can supply themselves in the fields. In winter, the peasants go what they call a Hamster-nesting; and, when they discover the retreat, dig down till they find the hoard: and they are commonly well paid; for, besides the skins of
the

the animals, which are valuable furs, they find commonly two bushels of good grain in the magazine. These animals are very fierce; and will jump at a horse that happens to tread near them, and hang by it's nose, so that it is difficult to disengage them. They make a noise like the barking of a dog. In some seasons, they are so numerous as to occasion a dearth of corn. Polecats are their greatest enemies; for they pursue them into their holes, and destroy numbers. It is remarkable, that the hair sticks so close to the skin, as not to be plucked off without the greatest difficulty."

The account of M. Sulzer gives the Female about six at a birth; and states the hoards of grain to consist generally of twelve pounds of grain: in other respects, it sufficiently agrees with what is collected by Mr. Pennant.





CANADA GOOSE.

Published Oct. 25. 1855. by Harrison, (Jno. & Co.) 110, N. 3rd St. N. York.

CANADA GOOSE.

THE account given by Edwards, whose excellent figure we have adopted, of this fine bird, is as follows—"It exceeds, in size, the Common Tame Goose, a little. Its make is something slenderer, or longer in the body and neck, than the Common Tame Goose. The bill is made pretty much like that of a Tame Goose; rough on its edges, and of a black or deep lead-colour. The eyes are of a dark colour; the under eye-lids white. The head and neck are black: except a white mark passing on the under side of the head; which becomes narrower on the sides, and ends in points about the place of the ears. The back, wings, and part of the breast and belly, are of a dark-brown colour: the edges of the feathers are something lighter, inclining to ash-colour. The prime quills are almost black. The lower part of the back and rump is black. The feathers that cover the tail on the upper side are white: the tail itself is black. The feathers at the bottom of the neck, before, are white; but gradually lose their whiteness in the brown of the breast: the lower belly, and the covert-feathers beneath the tail, are white.

The

The legs and feet, which seem to be made like those of a Tame Goose, are all of a dark lead-colour. It has four toes; three forward, and one backward."

Edwards tells us, that he drew this bird at his honoured patron's, Sir Hans Sloane, as it walked in the yard: and, that these Geese are found in Canada; and are brought, also, to us, from New England, and from Hudson's Bay. "I have," says he, "been informed, that some gentlemen have lately propagated this species in England. This bird," observes Edwards, "is described in Willughby's Ornithology, and is ill-figured in Plate 70: but, in Plate 71, there is a better figure of it; which, by some mistake, is called the Swan Goose. Albin, in his History of Birds, Vol. I. Plate 92, has figured a Goose called the Barnacle; and, through ignorance, or mistake, has described it, Page 88, under the name of the Canada Goose. Wherefore," adds Edwards, "in order to rectify the above errors, I present the public with a new draught and description immediately from life. In my description, I have been something more particular than Mr. Willughby:

Willughby: he calls the bird grey, where I call it dark brown; it is, indeed, of a dirty brown, something inclining to grey. In the figure, I have endeavoured to be more correct, and nearer nature, than any former draught, and hope I have succeeded. My friend, Mr. Isham, has informed me, that great flocks of these birds appear in the spring of the year, in Hudson's Bay; and pass a great way northward of the English settlements, where they are supposed to breed: they return again, in flocks, to the southern parts, before the winter comes on."

Buffon names this bird the Cravat Goose: almost every other author calls it the Canada Goose. It is the *Anas Canadensis*, or Canada Goose, of Linnæus, Catesby, Edwards, Pennant, and Latham; and the *Anser Canadensis Sylvestris*, of Willughby, and of Brisson.

"A white cravat," says Buffon, "wrapped about it's black neck, distinguishes sufficiently this Goose: which is, also, one of those peculiar to the northern parts of the New World; where, at least, it derives it's origin. It is something larger than our Domestic Goose; and has it's neck, and it's body, rather longer, and
more

more slender. Its head, and neck, are black, or blackish, which dark colour sets off the white cravat that covers the throat. The prevailing cast of its plumage is dull brown; and, sometimes, grey. This Goose is known in France by the name of the Canada Goose: it has even multiplied under domestication, and occurs in several of our provinces. Within these few years, many hundreds inhabited the great canal at Versailles, where they lived familiarly with the Swans: they were oftener on the grassy margins, than in the water. There is, at present, a great number of them on the magnificent pools that decorate the charming gardens of Chantilly. They have also multiplied in Germany, and in England. This beautiful species may be viewed as forming the intermediate gradation between the Swan and Goose.

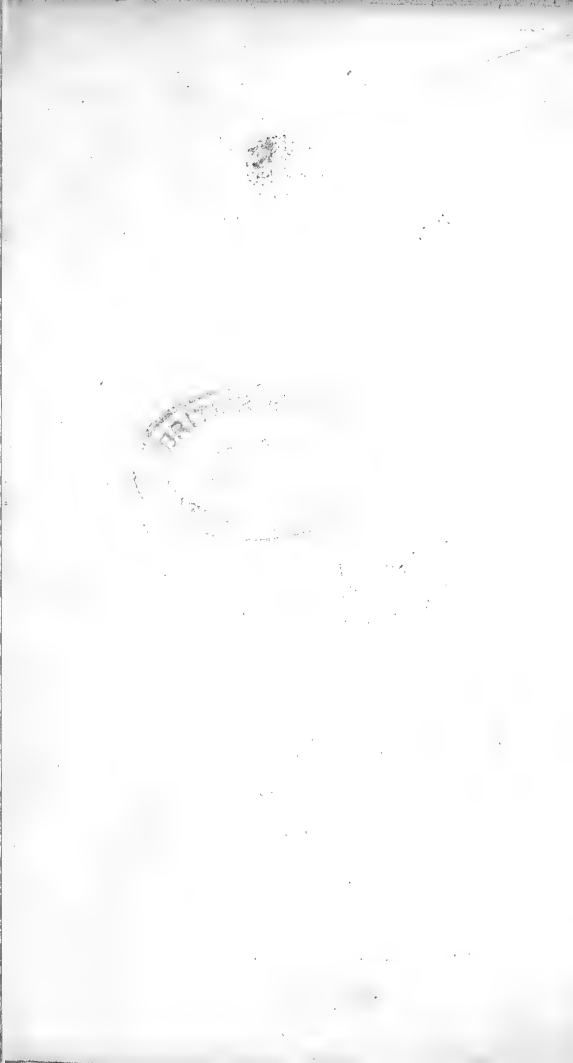
“ These Cravated Geese,” remarks Buffon, “ migrate southwards in America; for they appear during winter in Carolina: and Edwards relates that, in the spring, they pass in flocks to Canada; and thence return to Hudson’s Bay, and the other more northern parts of America. It breeds in Hudson’s Bay, and
lays

lays six or seven eggs. I must," concludes Buffon, "beg leave to subjoin the following extract from Mr. Pennant; to whose ingenious and accurate works I have so often been indebted—

"The English of Hudson's Bay depend greatly on Geese, of these and other kinds, for their support; and, in favourable years, kill three or four thousand, which they salt and barrel. Their arrival is impatiently attended: it is the harbinger of spring, and the month named by the Indians the Goose Moon. They prefer islands to the continent, as farther from the haunts of men. The English send out their servants, as well as the Indians, to shoot these birds on their passage. It is in vain to pursue them: they, therefore, form a row of huts made of boughs, at musquet-shot distance, from each other, and place them in a line across the vast marshes of the country. Each hovel, or—as they are called—stand, is occupied by only a single person: these attend the flight of the birds; and, on their approach, mimic their cackle so well, that the Geese will answer, and wheel and come nearer the stand.

"The

“ The sportsman keeps motionless, and on his
“ knees, with his gun cocked, the whole time ;
“ and never fires till he has seen the eyes of
“ the Geese. He fires as they are going from
“ him ; then picks up another gun, that lies by
“ him, and discharges that. The Geese which
“ he has killed, he sets up on sticks, as if alive,
“ to decoy others. He also makes artificial
“ birds for the same purpose. In a good day,
“ for they fly in very uncertain and unequal
“ numbers, a single Indian will kill two hun-
“ dred. Notwithstanding every species of
“ Goose has a different call, the Indians are
“ admirable in their imitation of every one.
“ The vernal flight of the Geese lasts from
“ April to the middle of May. Their first
“ appearance coincides with the thawing of
“ the swamps, when they are very lean.
“ The autumnal, or season of their return,
“ with their young, is from the middle of
“ August to the middle of October. Those
“ which are taken in the latter season, when
“ the frosts usually begin, are preserved in their
“ feathers, and left to be frozen, for the fresh
“ provisions of the winter stock. The fea-
“ thers constitute an article of commerce, and
“ are sent to England.”



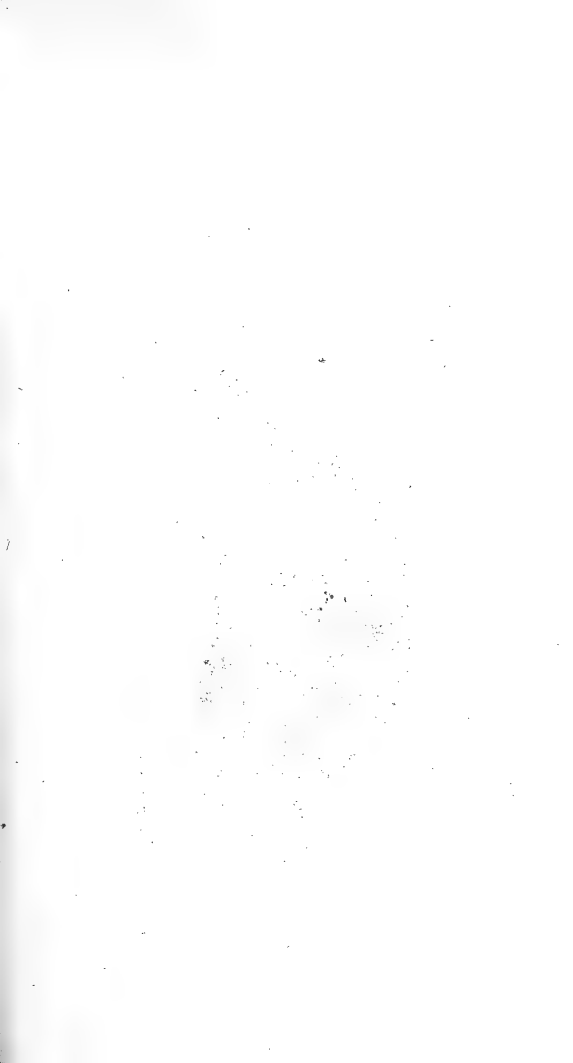
SUN-FLOWER,

OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

WITHOUT any other knowledge of the structure and growth of this plant, than what is conveyed by the figure, which we can rely on being accurately drawn from nature, we incline to call it the Sun-Flower of New South Wales: a name which, till it's botanical characters be better known, may do quite as well as any other. Some botanists, indeed, on seeing the drawing, have rather supposed it to be a species of what is commonly called the Ox-Eyed Daisy. The leaf, however, it must be confessed, neither resembles that, nor the Sun-Flower; so that, probably, it is, in truth, essentially different from both.

The original drawing, which represented the flower of the natural size, was about eight inches high. A Memorandum beneath tells us, that "this plant flowers in September and October." It also says—"This charming flower,

flower, like some on the African coast, will retain it's freshness for several years after it is gathered."





BEAVER.

- London, Published Oct. 30-1800, by Harrison, (Luce, & Co.) No. 18, Newgate Street.

BEAVER.

IN almost every point of view, the Beaver is a curious and interesting object, the history of which might easily form a volume. Linnaeus, uniting the Greek appellation *Καστός*, with the Latin *Fiber*, names the Common Beaver, which we have delineated from a living subject in Mr. Pidcock's Collection, *Castor Fiber*. The Italians call it *Bivaro*, or *Bevero*; the Spaniards, *Bevaro*; the Germans, *Biber*; the Poles, *Bobr*; the Swedes, *Baëffwer*; and the French, *Castor*, or *Bièvre*. Pennant denominates it, the *Castor Beaver*; and Brisson, *Castor Castaneus*, or the *Chesnut Beaver*.

The Beaver is about three feet in length, and its remarkable tail nearly a foot. The head is thick, and pyramidal, ending in a blunt nose. There are two strong cutting-teeth in each jaw; and four grinders on each side, in both jaws. The ears are short, and nearly hid in the fur. The tail, which is flat, thin horizontally, and about three inches broad, has a fourth part of its length nearest the body hairy; the rest, which is entirely naked of hair, is covered with actual scales like those of a fish.

The

The neck is thick, and short; and the body strongly made, and highly arched in the back. The feet have five toes each; and the fore-feet, which are small, have the toes divided; while the hind-feet are not only large, but connected by a web or membrane. The body is covered with two coats of fur: one of which is very soft, downy, and of an ash-colour; the other, long, coarse, and of a chesnut-brown, which is the common colour of the animal. The colour, however, greatly varies, in different parts of the world: being darker, in general, as we go farther north; so as, sometimes, to be found entirely black, which is considered as the most valuable fur. Not unfrequently, the colour is uniformly white; and sometimes it is white, spotted with ash-colour, or interspersed with reddish hairs.

In Cartwright's Journal on the Coast of Labrador, he remarks that, as all the accounts which he has read of Beavers are very erroneous, he will communicate his observations on those animals. It is true that he sets out rather inauspiciously, by charging Buffon with having said, that "a Beaver has a scaly tail, because he eats fish;" pertinaciously adding,

" I wonder

“ I wonder much, that Monsieur Buffon had not one himself for the same reason, for I am sure that he has eaten a great deal more fish than all the Beavers in the world put together:” whereas, in truth, Buffon’s history of the Beaver contains nothing at all like any such ridiculous assertion. But, though our critical traveller has, in this instance, committed an egregious blunder, he certainly gives us much of the best information which we possess on the subject.

“ Beavers,” says he, “ will neither eat fish, nor any other animal food: but live on the leaves and bark of such trees and shrubs as have not a resinous juice, and the root of the Water-Lily. I have known them eat Black Spruce: and they will sometimes cut down Silver Fir; but, I believe, that is only to build with, when other trees are scarce. When they eat, they hold their food in their fore-paws, and sit up, like Monkeys. In the summer-time, they ramble about very much, paying little regard to their houses; and will make a bed of sticks shred fine, under a bush near the water-side, and there sleep. The first bed of this kind which I found, I took to be the nest of a
Goose.

Goose. If the pond which they lived in the last winter has plenty of such food as they like growing by the side of it, and they have not been disturbed by man, they seldom quit it; but, if there be a scarcity of food, they will wander about in search of another, where they can be more plentifully supplied: and it has long been observed that, of all the trees which grow in Newfoundland or Labradore, they like the Aspen best; and, next to that, the Birch.

“ Having found a place convenient for the purpose, they commonly begin early in August to erect their house. They are very industrious creatures: for, even amidst a superabundance of provisions, they will continue to add to the store; and, though their house be completely built, they will carry on fresh works, till the pond is frozen firm over. They will even keep a hole open, to work on the house for some nights after, provided the frost is not very severe: and, as they will enter every old house, and do a little work on it, young furriers are frequently deceived thereby, supposing those houses to be inhabited. Though they sometimes continue in the same pond for three or four years, or more, they will frequently build

build themselves a new house every year; at other times, they will repair an old one, and live in that: and they often build a new house on, or close adjoining to, an old one; making the two tops into one, and cutting a communication between the lodgings. Hence, I presume, arose the idea of their having several apartments. When the pond is not deep enough for them, they will throw a dam across the mouth of the brook, by which it discharges it's water, to raise it to a sufficient height; making use of sticks, stones, mud, and sand, for this purpose. Some of these I have seen of great length, and strength; insomuch that I have walked over them with the greatest safety: though not quite dryshod, if they were new; as the water always sheds over them, being of an exact level from end to end. But if, notwithstanding the stint, they cannot raise the water to a proper depth near the bank, they build their house in a pond, at a few yards distance from the shore; beginning at the bottom, and hollowing it out as they go on: for they must have about three feet depth over the end of the angle, or the water would freeze in it, and they could go neither in nor out. If there be an island in the pond, they generally make
their

their house on that, as being the safest place: and by far the greatest number of houses are on the north shore, for the advantage of the sun. They have no opening from their house on the land side, and for these reasons—Because the frosty air would enter at that hole, and freeze up the water in the angle, whereby they would be cut off from their magazine; the wolves likewise, and other enemies, might enter thereat, and kill them; and the cold would be greater than they can bear. For, though they are provided with a thick skin, covered with plenty of long warm fur, they cannot endure severe frost; it being well known, that they die if exposed to it for a short time.

“ They are always killed by staking their houses, by guns, or by traps; and not by hunting them with Dogs, by Men on Horseback with Spears, as I have seen ridiculously described in prints. Nor do they ever castrate themselves to escape their pursuers; for that part is not only of no use, but both those, their prides, and oil-bags—the two latter vessels being common to both sexes, and the prides only used in medicine known by the name of
Castoreum

Castoreum—lie so compleatly within them, that the operation must be performed by a very skilful hand indeed, and with the greatest care, not to kill them. If their flesh were not such excellent eating, very few Beaver Skins would ever come to market.

“ Beavers generally bring forth two young ones at a time, which are most commonly Male and Female: yet they will often have but one, especially the first time of breeding; and, sometimes, three or four. I was told, by a man of mine, that he once cut seven out of an old one. The first year, they are called Pappooses; the second, Small Medlars; the third, Large Medlars, the fourth, Beavers; and, after that, Old or Great Beaver. They copulate in May, and bring forth towards the end of June. The young ones continue to live with their parents till they are full three years old; then pair off, build a house for themselves, and begin to breed. Yet, sometimes, and not uncommonly, if they are undisturbed, and have plenty of provisions, they will continue longer with the old ones, and breed in the same house: they are then called a Double Crew. It oftentimes happens, that a single Beaver

Beaver lives retired; and it is then styled, by furriers, a Hermit. They say it is turned out from the family, because it is lazy, and will not work; and, what is very singular,—for, let the cause be what it will, the fact is certain—all Hermit Beavers have a black mark on the inside of the skin, on their backs, called a saddle, which distinguishes them. I rather think the cause of Hermit Beavers to be fidelity to a lost mate, as they are very faithful creatures.

“ Whether Beavers do, or do not, make use of their tails, as trowels to plaister their houses with, I cannot say; though I am inclined to believe, that they do not: because their tail is so heavy, and the tendons of it are so weak, though numerous, that I do not think they can use it to that effect; and that, therefore, they daub the earth on with their hands, for I must call them so. When they dive, they give a smack in the water with their tails, as they go down; but that appears to me, to proceed from the tail falling over with it's own weight. They move very slowly on land; and being, also, very cowardly creatures, are easily killed there by any man or beast that chances to meet with them. When met on shore by a Man, they

they have been known to sit on their breech, and begin crying like a young child.

“ When caught young, they are soon made tame, and then are very fond of boiled Peas. They are said, by naturalists, to make use of their tails as sleds to draw stones and earth on. I cannot contradict their assertions, as I have never seen these animals work: but I do not believe it; because their tails being thickest at the root, and down the centre part, it would be almost impossible for them to keep a stone on it, unless held there by another. Nor have I ever observed, that they had taken any stones off the ground: but they bring them from the sides and bottoms of the water; and must make use of their hands for those purposes, as they could easier shove and roll them along, than draw them on their tail.

“ Those who compare this account with the writings of Buffon and others, will find a great difference: but it must be remembered, that they wrote entirely from hearsay, and I from experience chiefly.

“ As so many noblemen and gentlemen
have

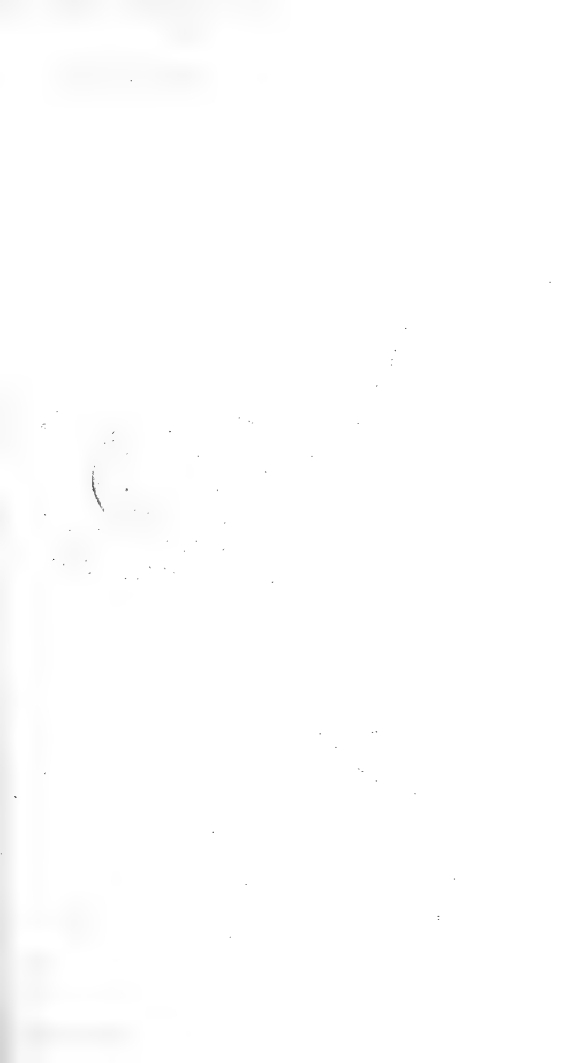
have expended large sums on curiosities, and pleasure," concludes Mr. Cartwright, "I greatly wonder, that no one, out of so many who have parks well walled round—for no other fence will do—with convenient ponds in them, have been curious enough to establish a colony of Beavers: which might easily be done, by planting plenty of Birch, Aspen, Ash, Willow, Sallow, Osier, Alder, and other such trees, round the ponds, according to the nature of the soil, and procuring a few pairs to turn in. But care should be taken to have pairs of the same family, lest they all turn Hermits!"

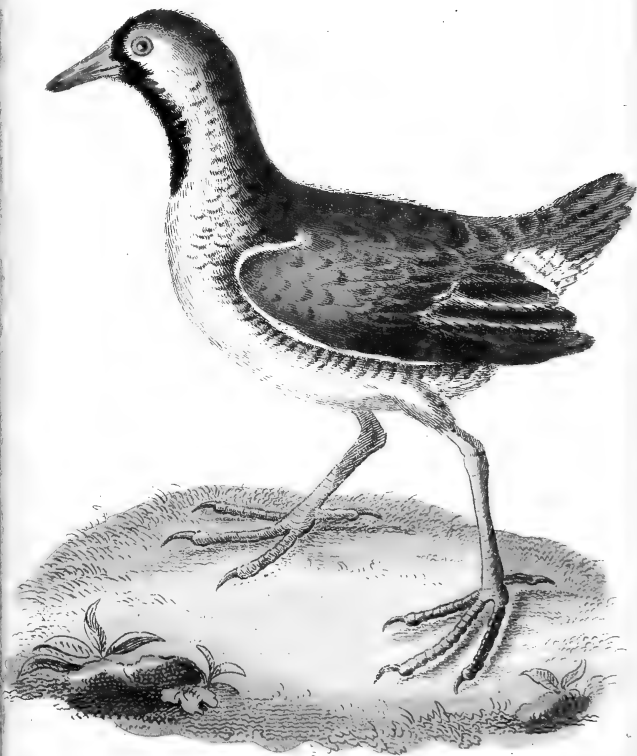
In Mr. Cartwright's account of the Beaver, we trace but little of that wonderful skill and sagacity for which this animal has been so prodigiously extolled. Far from beholding the Beavers form a social compact, and exhibit all the policy of a rational republic, as gravely related by some respectable writers; we do not even perceive them cutting down trees of greater bulk than a Man's body, and throwing them across a stream to make their extensive dams—pointing, and placing as rows of piles, large limbs lopped of their boughs, and digging holes in the bed of the river to receive them

them—wattling with smaller branches, like wicker work, between the piles, from end to end—strengthening the whole with walls of mud and sand, formed into an admirable mortar impenetrable by the water—and erecting, with similar materials, vast public edifices, and family mansions, consisting of numerous apartments, and crowned with elegant domes—as seems universally admitted by every naturalist. Yet, allowing for some exaggerations, the common result of excessive admiration, the latter accounts are, probably, not far from the fact. To discover, however, all these effects of the united energies of a republic of Beavers, we must resort to some spot where they have never yet been approached by Man; the grand disturber of every peaceful establishment, when art is found to have attained an enviable height. The Beavers, like the Jews before their dispersion, while forming a multitudinous nation, could produce works which, in their scattered state, it may seem to incredulity, on beholding the sad effects of diminished freedom, they were never capable of executing. In the country where Mr. Cartwright made his observations on Beavers, they have long been subjects of human persecution; and, even there,

there, he does not pretend that he ever beheld them at work. The truth appears to be, that they are, at present, like the Jews, a dispersed race all over the known world.

The Beaver is found, in Europe, from Lapland to Languedoc; is very plentiful in the North; and abounds in the Asiatic part of the Russian empire: but it is prodigiously most numerous in the northern parts of America. The skins are a great article of trade, being the foundation of the hat-manufactory. Upwards of fifty thousand Beaver skins have been sold in England, by the Hudson's Bay Company, at a single sale. They are distinguished by the different names of Coat Beaver, Parchment Beaver, and Stage Beaver. The first are the most valuable, being those skins which have had the long rough hair worn off by the Indians; the next receives it's name from the resemblance which it bears to parchment on the under side; and the last, which is least esteemed, is what the Indians kill out of season, in their stages, or journies. Though we supply Russia with many Beaver skins, the Russian Castoreum is the best, and five times dearer than any other.





LITTLE AMERICAN WATER-HEN.

London, Published Oct. 30-1800, by Harrison, (Luce, & Co) N^o. 108. Newgate Street.

LITTLE AMERICAN WATER-HEN.

THIS bird seems generally considered as a Rail, rather than a Water-Hen. It is the *Rallus Carolinus*, of Linnæus; the *Rallus Virginianus*, or Virginian Rail, of Brisson, and of Buffon; the American Rail, or Soree, of Catesby; the *Rallus, Terrestris Americanus*, of Klein; the *Gallinula Carolina*, or Soree Gallinule, of Latham; and the Little American Water-Hen, of Edwards, whose name and figure we have adopted.

The bird figured by Edwards was brought from Hudson's Bay; and he imagines Catesby's American Rail, or Soree, to be the Hen of this species. "I have," says he, "also received a small Water-Hen from Sweden, which comes very near Mr. Catesby's, on comparison with it. Mine differs principally from Mr. Catesby's, in having a blueish neck and breast, a black throat and ring round it's bill, and a whiter belly."

We suspect that, by naturalists in general, this bird is confounded with the *Fulica Fusca* of Linnæus: and, if the conjecture of Edwards be right, as above suggested, even Linnæus has

has, perhaps, made two different species of the Cock and Hen; an error which, we are fully satisfied, frequently occurs, in every systematic work of ornithology, as well as in most other branches of natural history.

Buffon's description is as follows—"This bird is of the bulk of the Quail, and more a-kin to the Land-Rail than to the Water-Hens. It appears to be found through the whole extent of North America, as far as Hudson's Bay; though Catesby says, that he saw it only in Virginia: it's plumage, he tells us, is entirely brown. He adds, that these birds grow fat in autumn; that the savages take them by speed of foot; and that they are as much prized in Virginia, as the Rice-Birds in Carolina, or the Ortolans in Europe."

The Linnæan name is certainly improper, as the bird appears to be but little known in Carolina, and to abound in Virginia. Latham's first appellation partakes in this local error; but his latter name, the Soree Galinule, is better founded. In both, we have the authority of this distinguished ornithologist, added to that of Edwards, for considering it as a Water-Hen.





SWALLOW-TAIL BUTTERFLY.

SWALLOW-TAIL BUTTERFLY.

THE beautiful Butterfly represented in the annexed print, is a native of this country. It was, however, when first found, supposed to be a foreign insect; and certainly bears a very strong resemblance to the New-York Swallow-Tail, which we have already figured and described.

Linnæus calls this Butterfly *Machaön*: and, by some English Aurelians, it has been denominated the Royal William; probably, as a compliment to his Royal Highness William Duke of Cumberland, who was popular for his defeat of the rebels, in 1745, about the time when this Butterfly appears to have been first particularly noticed.

Though we regard this as our Common Swallow-Tail Butterfly, it is by no means found any where in abundance. It is chiefly seen in the meadows near Bristol; and at Westram, near Cookham, in Surry.

The Caterpillar is large, and extremely beautiful. It is smooth; and of a lovely pale green on the back, softening into a fine bottle-blue towards the belly: being striped with black transverse lines, in the same manner as the stripes of the Zebra; on which lines, or stripes, are spots of fine crimson. This Caterpillar feeds on Wild Fennel, Carrots, and umbelliferous plants; and changes into the Chrysalis about the months of July and September.

It appears in the winged state, in May and August.

W. H. H. & Co.
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